



Daily Report—

East Asia

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Daily Report

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Japan

Government To Recognize New Romanian Leadership

OW 2712053289 Tokyo KYODO in English 0317 GMT
27 Dec 89

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 27 KYODO—Japan will recognize the new National Salvation Front government of Romania on Friday, a government source said Wednesday. Meanwhile, Japan responded to an international appeal for emergency assistance with a pledge of 1 million dollars, and offers of additional medical assistance.

Commenting on the execution of deposed President Nicolae Ceausescu, and his wife Elena, Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu described it as "very shocking." Chief Cabinet Secretary Mayumi Moriyama said it was "unavoidable."

"There should have been a more open trial. That is common sense for a democratic country," Kaifu told reporters. Moriyama said a public trial was preferable. "But under the circumstances, I think their action was unavoidable."

A top government official said the government will formalize the recognition at a cabinet meeting to be held Friday.

The Japan Red Cross Society said it is prepared to dispatch a six-member medical team to Romania, and to make available 100 million yen worth of medical supplies. A senior Foreign Ministry official said Japan is also considering providing food aid to Romania. This is in addition to the 1 million dollars of assistance Japan offered in response to a plea on Monday night by the International Red Cross, which says it needs 4 million dollars in cash for emergency activities in Romania.

Kaifu's Upcoming Trip to Europe Detailed

Hopes Expressed

OW 2312040589 Tokyo KYODO in English 0818 GMT
23 Dec 89

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 23 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu said on Saturday he hopes to exchange views with the leaders to Hungary and Poland during his European trip, aimed at strengthening bilateral relations. Kaifu also plans to visit five Western European nations during his tour, slated for January 8-18. Kaifu said he hopes to discuss with Western leaders common issues such as global economic growth without inflation.

Kaifu was interviewed for New Year's programs by five local television networks from his constituency of Aichi Prefecture at his official residence in Tokyo. Referring to ongoing talks with the United States to remove structural impediments to trade, Kaifu said Japan should try

harder to provide an answer in time for an interim assessment expected next March. A final report is slated for next July.

Kaifu expressed a strong desire to visit Asian nations at the earliest possible time. After returning from Europe, Kaifu will be busy preparing for the general election, which is expected to be held on February 16.

Turning to domestic policies, Kaifu said the government will launch a 10-year program to supply 1,000,000 housings for residents in and around metropolitan Tokyo. He said a solution to the housing problem is a top priority.

To Announce New Initiative

OW 2512124489 Tokyo KYODO in English 1213 GMT
25 Dec 89

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 25 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu will announce a major new Japanese foreign policy initiative next month in Berlin where he is expected to declare Japan's welcome of "an economically and politically strong Europe." Foreign Ministry sources said Monday. The new policy will be a major reversal from Japan's previous caution over the prospect of protectionism when the European Community (EC) integrates in 1992.

Kaifu, who plans to visit eight countries in Europe in early January, will proclaim the new policy in an address at the Japan-German Center in West Berlin on January 8, sources said. Kaifu will also be pointing to the need for a significant bolstering of ties between Japan and the EC.

The new European policy comes amid great changes in the political and economic landscape of Europe. The changes have led Japanese policymakers to conclude that Japan's welcoming of the EC's integration is a prerequisite for a new policy initiative toward the continent, they said.

Kaifu will also explain Japan's position on the question of German reunification, saying that the significance of its meaning is changing in the context of the move toward European integration, sources said.

Kaifu Says PRC Loan May Be Ready by April

OW 2612115689 Tokyo KYODO in English 1111 GMT
26 Dec 89

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 26 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu hopes Japan's \$10 billion yen loan package to China will be implemented on schedule next April, but indicated that China should make the initial reconciliatory move toward Japan, officials said Tuesday. Kaifu also said that the Foreign Ministry has set up a project team to consider the timing of concluding the third six-year yen loan package to China, according to the officials.

Kaifu made the remarks in a meeting with House of Councillors member Hideo Den of the United Social Democratic party, officials said.

"I expect it will be ready by April," Kaifu was quoted as saying in response to Den's comment that Chinese leaders have been calling for the fresh loans to be processed quickly. The loans, committed by Japan in the summer of 1988, were held up following the Chinese Government's bloody crackdown on the pro-democracy movement last June. They were originally scheduled for implementation in April 1990.

But Kaifu, speaking afterwards to reporters, sounded negative on the prospect of unilateral action by Japan without preliminary moves from China in the context of assuring Japan of its adherence to open-door and reform policies.

Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama, speaking to reporters at the Japan National Press Club on the subject of the new yen loans, said Japan should initiate "new moves" toward China in the coming year.

"In the new year, I believe various new moves should be carried out," Nakayama said without elaboration. He said Japan's decision on the loans will be made after observing the moves of international financial institutions, an apparent reference to the World Bank.

A high-level Foreign Ministry official said that Nakayama's remarks, while sounding positive, do not signal any imminent unilateral action from Japan. Rather, Japan is waiting for initial moves from China and it has been sending signals to Beijing to that effect, the official said. Japan is "considering various things," but no concrete conclusions have been reached, the official said.

Chinese Boat People Flee From Detention Center

OW 2212154689 Tokyo KYODO in English 1441 GMT
22 Dec 89

[Text] Nagasaki, Dec. 22 KYODO—Three "boat people" have fled from a refugee detention center at Omura near here, immigration officials said on Friday. The three men were among the 125 Chinese boat people who arrived in southern Japan aboard a small ship in late October. A total of 963 people currently live in the Omura Center. The Japanese Government repatriated 301 Chinese boat people to China on Thursday.

Caught After Seeking Help

OW 2412141889 Tokyo KYODO in English 1151 GMT
24 Dec 89

[Text] Nagasaki, Dec. 24 KYODO—Two out of the three Chinese who recently fled from a refugee center here on Sunday asked protection at the Chinese Embassy in Tokyo but were immediately handed over to Japanese immigration officials, Nagasaki police said.

The two were Gao Guoping, 24, and Wu Dezhao, 28. The third man has not been found yet, police said. The three were among a group of 125 men and women found drifting off Kagoshima Prefecture on October 26 and subsequently detained at the Omura refugee reception center on Nagasaki. The group is believed to have tried to illegally enter Japan claiming to be Vietnamese refugees.

Gao and Wu told Tokyo police they arrived at Tokyo station on Sunday morning. Police in Nagasaki said they had assumed the three were heading for either Tokyo or Osaka after being informed that the trio had gone to JR Sasebo station in Nagasaki on Friday morning and boarded a special express.

Last Thursday, 301 Chinese who entered Japan posing as Vietnamese were sent back to China.

Police suspect the three fled in order to avoid repatriation.

New Envoy to U.S. Optimistic About Ties

OW 2312043589 Tokyo KYODO in English 0808 GMT
23 Dec 89

[Text] Washington, Dec. 22 KYODO—The United States anticipates favorable results from the Structural Impediments Initiative (SII) dialogue with Japan at an early date, Commerce Secretary Robert Mosbacher said Friday.

In a meeting with Japan's new Ambassador Ryoko Murata, Mosbacher said such results have to be acceptable to both countries, a Japanese spokesman said. Murata called on Mosbacher two days after he presented his credentials to President George Bush.

Spokesman Toshiyuki Takano said the new Japanese ambassador expressed optimism about Japan-U.S. relations despite trade frictions. Mosbacher told Murata that Washington and Tokyo have to work together to address trade and technology issues, the Japanese spokesman said.

Mosbacher also said he was impressed by the receptivity of member countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) to proposed Asia and Pacific economic cooperation during a ministerial meeting in Australia last November.

Structural Talks With U.S. Said Postponed

OW 2312043589 Tokyo KYODO in English 0418 GMT
23 Dec 89

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 23 KYODO—Japan and the U.S. will put off until late February the third round of bilateral trade talks on structural issues originally scheduled for January 16 and 17 in Tokyo, government sources said Saturday. The new date for the talks, called the Structural Impediments Initiative (SII), will be decided in a day or two, the sources said.

Japan sought the change of schedule because of the lagging preparations by both the Japanese and U.S. negotiators and Japan's general election expected for February, according to the sources. At the third round of the talks, the two sides are expected to propose measures to tackle the structural problems they discussed in the two previous rounds of talks.

The two countries had planned to compile an interim report on the talks in March.

Japan, USSR Tentatively Agree on Fishing

OW 22121113789 Tokyo KYODO in English 1037 GMT
22 Dec 89

[Text] Moscow, Dec. 22 KYODO—Japan and the Soviet Union agreed tentatively that each country can catch 182,000 tons of fish in each other's 200-mile waters next year without making any payment, Japanese officials in Moscow said Friday. In the Japan-Soviet fishery talks currently under way in Moscow, Japan demanded a 210,000-ton quota, the same level as this year, but the Soviet side insisted on cutting it to 182,000 tons. Japan agreed to accept it on a reciprocal basis, the officials said.

The negotiations have not yet covered Japan's catch quota for which it pays a cooperation fee to the Soviet side. The Japanese side hopes to complete the negotiations within this year, but the talks are likely to be difficult, the officials added.

The Soviets agreed to open some areas on the Pacific side of the Kuril Islands for grounded net trawl fishing, except for Alaska pollock, but still ban trawl fishing in other areas, they said.

JSP Delegation Pays Visit to South Korea

"Virtually" Recognizes Treaty

OW 2112091189 Tokyo KYODO in English 1430 GMT
20 Dec 89

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 20 KYODO—The Japan Socialist Party (JSP), in a new policy move, on Wednesday virtually recognized the treaty regulating relations between Japan and South Korea.

Issei Ito, JSP chief in charge of international matters, said the party presented a memorandum at the South Korean Embassy in Tokyo earlier in the day in which it said the party wanted to dispatch a delegation to South Korea for talks with the opposition Reunification Democratic Party (RDP) on the promotion of bilateral relations based on the Japan-South Korea basic treaty. The memorandum was attached to the applications for visas for delegation members for a trip to Seoul for three days beginning on Thursday, he said.

The JSP has kept close relations with North Korea and is regarded by South Korea as hostile to the South. The party announced disapproval of the treaty in 1965, saying it would lead to a permanently separated Korea.

The party, however, has said recently it will recognize the treaty if it can form a coalition government with other opposition parties in the future in order to maintain continuity in Japan's diplomacy. But it could not dispel what is called "distrust" among South Korean Government officials regarding its South Korean policy, political experts said.

The embassy approved visas for the delegation, headed by JSP Secretary General Tsuruo Yamaguchi. The visit, to be made at the invitation of the RDP, will be the first official one by the JSP, Japan's largest opposition party.

Ito said the memorandum was not tantamount to JSP approval of the treaty. But he said the party wanted to positively seek new relations between the two countries and suggested a possible change in the party's South Korean policy with the visit.

Issues Statement at Airport

OW 2112180189 Tokyo KYODO in English 1439 GMT
21 Dec 89

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 21 KYODO—Japan Socialist Party (JSP) officials said Thursday the party would support the maintenance of the Japan-South Korea basic treaty that regulates relations between the two countries if it were to take power in the future. The JSP delegation gave conditional backing to the treaty in a statement issued at Kimp'o Airport at the start of a three-day visit to South Korea. The JSP keeps close ties with North Korea and is regarded by South Korea as being hostile. The party disapproved the treaty in 1965, saying it would lead to permanently separated Koreas.

The statement said the JSP acknowledged South Korea's existence as a country and the treaty's effectiveness over more than 20 years.

Tsuruo Yamaguchi, the delegation leader and the party's secretary general, told reporters the JSP has not denied the existence of South Korea.

He said, "(When our party) takes power, ways to cope with the approval of a state or the maintenance of the treaty will be different from those it takes as an opposition party."

The JSP said the basic treaty does not recognize the existence of the two Koreas. The visit is the JSP's first and comes in response to an invitation from a South Korean opposition party, the Reunification Democratic Party (RDP).

In the statement, the delegation apologized to South Koreans for hardship they experienced through Japanese colonization before World War II. The delegation said a new friendship and goodwill will be formed between the two countries through further exchanges between them.

"A new page in the history of Asia will open if Japan and South Korea cooperate," Yamaguchi said.

While in Seoul, the delegation plans to meet RDP leader Kim Yong-sam and Prime Minister Kang Yong-han. It also will meet Kim Tae-chung, chief of the Party for Peace and Democracy, and Kim Chong-pil, head of the new Democratic Republican Party.

The statement said delegation members want to exchange candid views with South Korean leaders on how to ease tension in Asia and on economic cooperation. They said they hope to promote dialogue between the two Koreas and their re-unification.

Meanwhile, JSP headquarters in Tokyo was faced with a discrepancy among party members on the Korean policy. The gap surfaced after the party Wednesday presented an unusual memorandum to the South Korean Embassy about visas for the delegation. The memorandum virtually recognizes the Japan-South Korea basic treaty by saying the party wants to send the delegation for talks with the RDP on bilateral relations based on the treaty.

Some senior members claimed party policy is to seek balanced exchanges with the North and South Korea. The party's Central Executive Committee gave special consideration to North Korea and party members sympathetic to North Korea. Hideyoshi Hirose, a party member now visiting Pyongyang, was asked by the party to brief North Koreans on the delegation's Seoul visit.

To Urge South To Democratize

OW2212114889 Tokyo KYODO in English 0918 GMT
22 Dec 89

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 22 KYODO—A senior Japan Socialist Party (JSP) official said here Friday he will urge the democratization of North Korea, party officials said. Tsuruo Yamaguchi, here to head a JSP delegation, expressed his intention in regular talks with the South Korean opposition Reunification Democratic Party (RDP). Yamaguchi responded to an RDP request to try convincing North Korea that Eastern Europe's democratic reforms he attempted in Pyongyang. The JSP has close and friendly ties with the ruling (North) Korea Workers' Party.

The officials quoted RDP delegates as saying that Pyongyang has refused to open the country, despite the changes. They said the JSP's advice to the North, if taken, would help to reunify the Korean peninsula.

Yamaguchi said he hopes reforms in the Soviet Union and in East European countries will reach North Korea. He said he will try to work for Korean unification but said the party should not intervene in North Korea's domestic affairs, according to the officials.

Kim Yong-sam, RDP head and chief delegate at the meeting, said South Koreans have biased views toward the JSP, Japan's largest opposition party, due to its traditional policy of siding with North Korea. But he said fresh communication with the RDP in Seoul will

help change that, the officials said. The JSP has kept close ties with North Korea and is regarded as being hostile by South Korea.

Both parties agreed to hold a symposium next April or May, either in Tokyo or in Seoul, on the legal status of third-generation Korean residents of Japan, the officials said. They agreed to make efforts to resolve the home-return of South Koreans who were taken to Sakhalin by Japan to perform forced labor during Japan's colonial rule of Korea. They also supported efforts to promote transfer of advanced technologies from Japan to South Korea.

The delegation visited Seoul as the first official trip by JSP officials. The visit, however, was believed to be viewed unfavorably by the ruling Democratic Justice Party (DJP).

A meeting of the delegation with Prime Minister Kang Yong-han was canceled due to his poor health. National Assembly Chairman Kim Chae-sun will be absent from Friday's dinner party hosted by him for the delegation although the party was to be held. Kim is a DJP member. A meeting with DJP Chairman Pak Chun-kyu has been canceled by Pak.

After the JSP-RDP meeting, South Korean reporters asked whether the JSP recognizes the existence of South Korea. Delegates said the two parties were "aware" that the Japan-South Korea basic treaty which regulates relations between the two countries has been functioning for more than 20 years.

Issei Inoue, JSP chief in charge of international matters, said his party has used the word "aware" and has refused to say "recognize" because the party is not a ruling one. But he said the two words have the same meaning for the JSP.

In a meeting later with Kim Tae-chung, head of the South Korean opposition Party for Peace and Democracy (PPD), Yamaguchi said the JSP has never denied the existence of South Korea. "In fact, my presence here is an evidence of recognition," Yamaguchi was quoted as saying.

Kim also expressed a strong desire for the JSP to convince North Korea to take an open-door policy in light of the democratization process in Eastern Europe.

"We hope to see changes in North Korea in line with the powerful trend in the world at present, with contacts by Japan, the United States and East European nations," Kim said.

Yamaguchi criticized Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) for refusing to hold talks with North Korea's ruling Korea Workers' Party despite JSP efforts to bridge them. He expressed hope that the North would exchange views with the Japanese Government.

In a separate meeting later with Kim Chong-pil, head of the New Democratic Republican Party, Yamaguchi said

the JSP will seriously tackle the issue of improving the legal status for Korean residents in Japan, to achieve a higher evaluation of the party from South Korea.

Foreign Ministry on Japan's Role in World Order
OW 2512154889 Tokyo KYODO in English 1424 GMT
25 Dec 89

(Text) Tokyo, Dec. 25 KYODO—Japan will play a role commensurate with its economic and technological might in the crafting of a "new international world order," according to a Foreign Ministry policy paper made available Monday. The report also said that despite the welcome trend of East-West reconciliation, a disintegration of the U.S.-Japan military alliance would not be welcomed by other countries in Asia.

"Japan must more actively participate in international cooperation for the construction of a new world order," the report said. Toward that goal, it said, Japan should expand cooperation with its ideological partners among the advanced industrialized countries of the West.

While furthering traditionally close ties with the United States, it is time for Japan to strengthen its links with countries in Western Europe as well, the report said. In Asia, Japan should foster relations with China and help integrate it into the regional community, the report said.

Japan should also work toward a relaxation of tensions on the Korean peninsula and contribute to a resolution of the Kampuchean conflict, it said. Changes in traditional East-West relations should influence China, Vietnam and North Korea in various ways, the report predicted.

The report emphasized the growing importance of economic and scientific/technological strength and used a corresponding deemphasis on military strength. As an economic and technological power, Japan should bolster its efforts at resolving such global problems as environmental destruction, overpopulation, drugs and Third World debt, it said.

Changes in East-West relations were attributed to the Soviet Union's need for peace and stability in the international sphere if it was to make headway in its domestic reform program. The resultant changes in Soviet foreign policy have exhibited particular effects on Eastern Europe, which have rebounded in the Soviet domestic political arena, it said. The report said the fact that the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe had no choice but to pursue domestic reforms demonstrates the superiority of Western values of freedom, democracy and free-market economic principles.

It said the U.S.-Japan Security Treaty should be maintained despite changes in East-West relations. Through its alliance with the U.S., Japan achieves its security without having to become a military power threatening to other countries, it said.

On Japan-U.S. ties in general, the report said that assuming they are not a product of the cold war and do not exist merely to counter the Soviets, there is no need for them to change just because East-West relations change. Despite various problems between the two countries, relations are fundamentally firm and both countries share common values, it said.

Government To Extend Grant Aid to Philippines

OW 2212081589 Tokyo KYODO in English 0849 GMT
22 Dec 89

(Text) Tokyo, Dec. 22 KYODO—Japan will extend a total of 5.259 billion yen in grant aid to the Philippines to help fund food production programs, the Foreign Ministry said Friday. The ministry said 3 billion yen will be used for the country's purchase of fertilizers, chemicals, and agricultural machinery to boost crop production.

It also said the Philippines will use 2.259 billion yen to improve testing facilities for the nation's Rice Production Research Institute.

Notes on the aid package were signed Thursday in Manila, the ministry said.

Ajinomoto Sets Up Joint Venture in China

OW 2112150889 Tokyo KYODO in English 0842 GMT
21 Dec 89

(Text) Tokyo, Dec. 21 KYODO—Ajinomoto Co. said Thursday it has established its first Chinese joint venture in the northeastern Chinese city of Tianjin with a local firm to produce soy sauce intermediates for export to Japan. It said Ajinomoto, the largest Japanese food processor, and Tianjin Foodstuff Seasoning Corp. will hold equal shares in the new firm capitalized at some 82 million yen.

Tianjin Foodstuff will produce amino acid liquids, using cheap local raw materials, such as soybeans and wheat, at its existing plant, company officials said. Their joint venture, Tianjin Caiwei Foodstuff Seasoning Co., will bottle these liquids and export 8,000 kiloliters annually to Japan, with possible future sales in China as well, the officials said.

Japanese Auto Company To Advise Poland

OW 2012104889 Tokyo KYODO in English 0834 GMT
20 Dec 89

(Text) Osaka, Dec. 20 KYODO—Daihatsu Motor Co. said Wednesday it has agreed to extend technical expertise on the production of 1300cc Charade passenger cars to Poland's state-owned automaker, Fabryka Samochodow Osobowych (FSO). Company officials said the agreement arose after a group of representatives of Daihatsu and three other Japanese firms visited Poland

earlier this month. The three firms are C. Itoh and Co., Sumitomo Corp. and Mitsui and Co., all leading general traders.

Poland hoped to manufacture a 1600cc diesel engine car, and Daihatsu, a top Japanese motorcar producer, proposed a 1300cc compact car based on its Charade passenger model. Daihatsu, based in Osaka, western Japan, will send another mission to Poland early next year to talk over further details with FSO.

Officials said Daihatsu still insisted on credit guaranteed by the Japanese Government as a prerequisite for the project, so Poland will seek commercial loans to promote the project. Government credit is necessary because the cost of the project is expected to exceed 100 billion yen, they said.

Negotiations have been suspended since September last year when the Polish Government was reported to have picked Fiat S.P.A. of Italy as the project's partner. The deal also hit a snag when Japan refused to resume the application of export insurance to Poland in a summer after talks between the two governments on "scheduling" Warsaw's accumulated debt ended in a stalemate.

LDP Announces Tax Reform for Fiscal 1990

OW 20/2005889 Tokyo KYODO in English 1509 GMT 19 Dec 89

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 19 KYODO—The ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) on Tuesday announced a tax reform plan for fiscal 1990 starting next April, apparently with an eye toward the general election, expected in February. The plan features revisions of the 3 percent consumption tax and land tax systems, both under heavy criticism from the general public.

A set of tax measures to promote imports and cut Japan's huge trade surplus is also included.

The consumption tax, implemented in April, was seen as a major cause behind the LDP's sharp setback in the House of Councillors election in July. The LDP's tax plan calls for a reduction of the tax to 1.5 percent for all foodstuffs at the producer and wholesale levels, and for a tax exemption at the retail level beginning in October next year. Expenses for childbirth, cremation, interment, rents, school admission fees, and textbooks will also be exempted beginning next October.

The special local consumption tax on eating, drinking, and lodging will be kept at 3 percent, but the lowest taxable limit will be raised from 5,000 yen to 7,500 yen for eating and drinking, and from 10,000 yen to 15,000 yen for lodging. Another major feature of the plan is taxing farmland in the 23 special wards of Tokyo the same as residential property. An exceptionally low tax is presently imposed on farmland in urban areas, inviting heavy criticism from urban dwellers. A bill to that end will be submitted to the Diet in fiscal 1990, according to the plan.

The proposed heavier tax on urban farmland drew opposition from LDP members afraid of alienating urban farmers. But it was finally incorporated into the tax plan at the strong urging of Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, who wanted to make it as attractive to voters as possible. Special heavy taxes, due to expire next March, on land sold within 2 years of land purchase and on idle open spaces in the big three metropolitan areas will be extended for 2 years to curb soaring land prices and promote the use of urban land.

Tax measures for promotion of imports will be in effect for 3 years. They include an exemption of 5 percent of import increment from corporate tax, increased depreciation and establishment of tax-exempt reserves for imports equivalent to 20 percent of import increases. The plan also includes welfare measures to reduce tax burdens on low-income people.

Expenses for home assistance for the aged and the purchase of wheelchairs will be exempted from income tax.

The lowest taxable limits for public pension recipients will be raised by 200,000 yen to 3,216,000 yen for married couples aged 65 and over.

The ruling party's tax plan generally drew favorable comments from business leaders.

Eishiro Sano, chairman of the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren), noted that the plan includes no unreasonable increase in corporate taxes. There has been concern that the corporate tax might be raised to make up for a drop in consumption tax revenues. He also welcomes the proposed tax system for import promotion as a solid decision in view of Japan's international position. This view was also echoed by Takashi Ishihara, chairman of the Japan Association of Corporate Executives (Keizai Doyukai).

Ishihara also hailed the proposed taxing of farmland in central Tokyo as a step forward.

Eiji Suzuki, president of the Japan Federation of Employers' Associations (Nikkeirei), expressed hope that drastic measures will also be taken to alleviate worker dissatisfaction with an acute housing shortage.

Sano and other business leaders expressed the view that the planned revision of the consumption tax addresses consumer needs. They hoped that the revision will help establish the consumption tax.

Finance Minister Refutes Need for Fiscal Reform

OW 22/2045589 Tokyo KYODO in English 0316 GMT 22 Dec 89

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 22 KYODO—Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto indicated Friday that there is no immediate need for Japan to alter its monetary policy, apparently ruling out an imminent hike in the official discount rate. His remarks, made after a cabinet meeting, came

amid a tug-of-war between the Finance Ministry and the Bank of Japan regarding a possible third increase this year in the key rate.

Hashimoto told reporters there is no change in the ministry's perception of the current economic and monetary situation. The ministry, however, will keep a careful watch on currency movements, he said.

Matsuaga: Calls Surplus Cut 'Understandable'

OW2212150589 Tokyo KYODO in English 1125 GMT
22 Dec 89

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 22 KYODO—International Trade and Industry Minister [MITI] Hikaru Matsuaga said Friday a 3-billion dollar reduction in Japan's trade surplus projected by the government for fiscal 1990 is an "understandable" level in view of rising imports recently. Matsuaga made the remark at a press briefing held shortly after a cabinet meeting Friday afternoon, during which the government's set of projections for economic growth in the new fiscal year were officially confirmed by all cabinet ministers.

"It is a reasonable level considering the country's export performance and the likelihood of changes in exchange rates next year," Matsuaga said.

"We will make efforts to cut the country's trade surplus by the level estimated by the government today through our tax incentive plans and other measures to be implemented next year," he said.

Under its three-year tax incentive plans, effective next April, the MITI hopes to boost imports by some 10 billion dollars in the next three years. The MITI expects Japan's imports in fiscal 1990 alone to rise about 3 billion dollars.

Panel Report Urges Debt-Free Budget Plans

OW2112015389 Tokyo KYODO in English 0807 GMT
21 Dec 89

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 21 KYODO—The government should continue fiscal reforms in order to run the nation's budget without debt-financing bonds, a government advisory body urged in a report presented Thursday. The report, submitted by the Fiscal System Council to Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto, said fiscal reforms are needed so that the budget can be drafted flexibly without caution over debt-servicing expenditures. Among other things, it called for a halt to the issuance of debt-financing bonds in the coming fiscal year, a tax the government has pursued since fiscal 1975 when it began covering revenue shortfalls with such debentures.

"The target must be achieved at any cost so that all the fiscal reform efforts made so far will not come to nothing," the report said. The target is widely expected

to be achieved in the fiscal 1990 budget amid larger-than-expected tax revenues thanks to the booming economy.

The outstanding balance of government bonds, including those issued to finance public works, is expected to total some 161 trillion yen at the end of the current fiscal year ending on March 31, more than twice the size of the 60.41 trillion yen Fiscal 1989 budget. This amounts to a per capita debt of some 1.3 million yen.

Regarding debt-servicing, the report also urged expenses equivalent to a fixed portion of outstanding bonds to be earmarked for a debt-servicing special account in the fiscal 1990 budget as required under the Finance Law.

The measure has been skipped, under special legislation, since fiscal 1982 as the budget was caught under the heavy weight of snowballing government bonds outstanding. The Finance Ministry reportedly plans to resume the law-mandated step in the coming fiscal year.

Looking at larger-than-expected tax revenues in recent years, the report warned against expanding fiscal spending [word indistinct] revenues, which it said are sensitive to economic fluctuations. The warning came at a time when political pressure for bigger budgetary outlays is growing ahead of general elections expected next February.

The report serves as a guideline on drafting the fiscal 1990 budget, whose blueprint will be presented by the Finance Ministry next Sunday.

Diet Convenes for 150-Day Session, Then Recesses

OW2512015789 Tokyo KYODO in English 0145 GMT
25 Dec 89

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 25 KYODO—The Diet was convened Monday for a 150-day ordinary session through May 23 but immediately went into a month-long new year recess. Both houses of the legislature held plenary sessions to decide formalities only.

Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu will give a major policy speech at the opening of the session, to be resumed around January 22.

The 66.27 trillion yen state budget will be among major topics for discussion. All political parties, however, expect Kaifu to dissolve the House of Representatives in late January for a snap general election in February.

Full-fledged discussions will come after the election, probably in March, political sources said.

Agriculture Minister Reports Increased Rice Crop

OW2212092289 Tokyo KYODO in English 0817 GMT
22 Dec 89

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 22 KYODO—Japan's rice crop in 1989 totaled 10,347,000 tons, up 412,000 tons over the

previous year. Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Minister Mochihiko Kano reported at a cabinet meeting Friday. The crop index rose four points from last year to 101 (100 for the average).

Explaining the improvement, Kano said that the harvest per 10 acres increased 22 kilograms to 490 kilograms despite a decrease in the total planting acreage.

Mongolia

Public Condemns U.S. 'Aggression' in Panama

OW 26/12/10/89 Ulaanbaatar International Service
in English 0910 GMT 26 Dec 89

[Text] The Mongolian people condemn the U.S. armed aggression against Panama and [demand] an immediate end to it, says a statement of the Mongolian People's Committee issued here on Ulaanbaatar. The [words indistinct] would dovetail with the vital interests of strengthening the positive trends in ensuring universal peace and security, removing the threat of nuclear war, and that of furthering trust and mutual understanding among nations.

The statement voices the solidarity of the Mongolian people with the people and people of Panama striving for the freedom and independence.

Foreign Minister Concludes Visit to USSR

Speaks on E. Europe Changes

OW 26/12/10/89 Ulaanbaatar International Service
in English 1200 GMT 26 Dec 89

[Text] A primary task today is to make irreversible the positive global changes and [discomfits] by the way of [present and certain] mutual understanding. This was said by Mongolian Foreign Minister Gombosuren in his interview with a Soviet TASS agency correspondent in Moscow where he is currently on a working visit. Such an approach, he said, underlies the efforts of Mongolia developing multifarious contacts with Asian states and also with the Western countries. He said Mongol-Soviet relations are based on a set of treaties which embrace practically all spheres of cooperation and which, as a whole, are working well.

Thanks to mutual strivings, Mongol-Sino relations of late have assumed new positive proportions which must further develop the principles of peaceful coexistence, said Gombosuren.

The Mongolian minister qualified the dramatic changes in Eastern Europe as positive. Every nation must choose its own means of tackling its socioeconomic problems, said Gombosuren, and added that Mongolia stands for a consistent observation of the principles of noninterference in internal matters and opposes all attempts to violate this principle wherever it may emanate from.

Meets Rybin

OW 25/12/12/89 Ulaanbaatar International Service
in English 1200 GMT 25 Dec 89

[Text] Mongolian Foreign Minister Gombosuren returned to Ulaanbaatar Sunday (24 December) after completing his working visit to the Soviet Union at the invitation of the Soviet Government.

Before his departure home from Moscow, he was received by Soviet Prime Minister Nikolai Rybin. They considered pressing international problems and issues of bilateral relations. Gombosuren said the Mongolian people, with great interest, follow the process of perestroika in the Soviet Union.

The two men underlined the vital importance of streamlining the mechanisms of bilateral economic cooperation and raising its efficiency in the interests of the two nations. They welcomed the favorable changes in the international climate.

The Soviet premier highly assessed Mongolia's proposal on setting of permanent mechanism of dialogue and cooperation in the northeast of Asia-Pacific region.

The meeting passed in an atmosphere of sincerity and friendship.

Ulaanbaatar Radio Reports Ceausescu Execution

OW 26/12/10/89 Ulaanbaatar International Service
in English 0910 GMT 26 Dec 89

[Text] According to Radio Bucharest, Nicolae Ceausescu and his wife Elena Ceausescu were executed Monday following a secret trial which indicted them with committing serious crimes against Romania.

Mongolia To Send Medical Aid to Romania

OW 26/12/10/89 Ulaanbaatar International Service
in English 0910 GMT 26 Dec 89

[Text] The Mongolian Red Cross Society has decided to send in help to the Romanian people medicaments costing 100,000 tugriks. [Words indistinct] and ointments for curing burns and wounds and another medicine will be airlifted soon from Ulaanbaatar to Romania.

Contract, Lease Methods Linked to Economic Reform

OW 26/12/10/89 Ulaanbaatar International Service
in English 0910 GMT 26 Dec 89

[Text] Contract and lease methods are finding broader application in Mongolia's agriculture. They are viewed as a powerful lever of guaranteeing the economic reforms in the country. Today more than 90 percent of all cooperative and state farms are applying these methods, and more than one-half of all farmers and herdsmen are working on either contract or lease. Besides the fixed wages, the farmers and herdsmen receive additional

home for successfully realising the obligations, in (words submitted) of improving the living standards.

North Korea

Romanian Council Recognized as Representative

SK.26/2220889 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1630 GMT
26 Dec 89

(Text) Pyongyang December 26 (KCNA)—The spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea issued a statement on the situation in Romania.

The text of the statement is as follows:

Statement of the spokesman of the DPRK Foreign Ministry

There has been a change of power in Romania recently.

The Council of the Romanian National Salvation Front and a new government have been formed to replace the former power.

The Council of the National Salvation Front put forward a new programme and is striving to stabilize the social and economic life of the country.

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea regards the current incident in Romania as an internal affair of the Romanian people.

It is for the Romanian people to decide what policy should be pursued in Romania.

We respect the road chosen by the Romanian people and recognise the Council of the Romanian National Salvation Front as the representative of the Romanian people.

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has always pursued a foreign policy based on the idea of independence, friendship and peace.

We, therefore, have maintained good friendly relations with the Romanian people and will continue to strengthen and develop them in the future, too.

We deeply regret the heavy loss in human lives caused by the bloody incidents in Romania this time.

We express support and solidarity for the efforts of the Romanian people to straighten out the present situation as early as possible, achieve the stability of the country and normalize socio-economic life under the guidance of the Council of the Romanian National Salvation Front. Pyongyang December 26, 1989.

Report of Soldiers Shooting Romanian 'Tales'

SK.26/2221489 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1630 GMT
26 Dec 89

(Text) Pyongyang December 26 (KCNA)—The Japanese ASAHI SHIMBUN December 26, reporting the Romanian situation, said "there is an information that soldiers of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea are firing at citizens on the side of the former government." The KCNA, on authentication, declares that it is a totally groundless and fabricated false report.

KCNA Reports BOK Citizen Defects to North

SK.25/2204789 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1517 GMT
25 Dec 89

(Text) Pyongyang December 25 (KCNA)—Yu Chong-kun, 29, who was a seaman of the Chinese Fisheries Company of South Korea recently came over to the Northern half of Korea.

Born in Kalibawi-ri, Kalleyon-myeon, Naenam county, South Kyongsang Province, he graduated from the middle school of his home town and served in the puppet army from May 1981 and, afterwards, worked at a secondhand shop, a timber company, a life insurance company and other companies in Pusan.

Saying that only maltreatment, humiliation and poverty were a source for him in the South Korean society of oligarchies where swindle and fraud held sway, he stated once he read ideological books of the North, he began to pay attention to the North where politics centering on people is in force.

To find a way of coming over to the North, he began to work as a seaman for the Chinese Fisheries Company of a foreign country in September last year and finally defected to the Northern half of the country, Yu Chong-kun said.

Bally in Pyongyang Welcomes Defector to North

SK.25/2204789 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1524 GMT
25 Dec 89

(Text) Pyongyang December 25 (KCNA)—A Pyongyang mass meeting was held today to welcome Chong Kyo-chun who came over to the Northern half of the country from South Korea.

At the meeting a decree of the DPRK Central People's Committee on awarding a DPRK order to him was read out and then the order and a large amount of monetary prize and souvenirs were handed to him.

Son Sung-kyong, vice-chairman of the Pyongyang Municipal Administration and Economic Guidance Committee, spoke at the meeting.

Noting that Chong Kyo-chun's coming over to the North showed his patriotic will to live a proper life for the

country and the nation, he said that he would copy the worth of a true life he had wanted in the Northern half of the republic.

Speaking in reply Chong Kyo-chin said that the North based on collectivism is a well united society in which comradeship and sense of obligation are most valued and the whole of which forms one harmonious family, the people helping and leading each other along and sharing life and death, sweets and bitters.

I would like to finally declare that the North provided by the great President Kim Il-sung and brought to office by the dear leader Mr. Kim Jong-il is indeed the bosom of the true fatherland where all of our fellow countrymen should be embraced, he said.

He expressed his determination to devote his whole to the noble cause of reunification, sharing the will of anti-U.S. national salvation with the students and people in the South.

Meeting Welcomes Another Defector

SK26/12230489 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1527 GMT
26 Dec 89

(Text) Pyongyang December 26 (KCNA)—A Pyongyang mass meeting was held today to welcome Yi Sang-yon, a South Korean young man who came over to the Northern half of Korea.

A DPRK order and a large sum of monetary prize were awarded and souvenirs were given to him at the meeting.

Addressing the meeting, Sim Sung-kyong, vice-chairman of the Pyongyang Municipal Administration and Economic Guidance Committee, praised Yi Sang-yon's defection as a patriotic, righteous act, as a manifestation of his resistance to the colonial military fascist rule of the U.S. imperialists and their stooges. Yi Sang-yon, now embraced in the bosom of the socialist homeland, will enjoy a worthwhile life on the genuine road for the country and the nation, bringing his hope into full bloom, he said.

Speaking in reply, Yi Sang-yon noted that in the North the state brings up children under its charge and gives them free education and everyone is provided a stable job and free medical care by the state.

Saying he is now spending days of happiness under the kind care of respected President Kim Il-sung and the dear leader Mr. Kim Jong-il, he vowed to devote all his wisdom and energy to bring earlier the day of national reunification, conscious of this great and precious happiness.

Daily Criticizes South's Defense Minister

SK23/12111789 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1018 GMT
23 Dec 89

(Text) Pyongyang December 23 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today comments on the recent talk of the

South Korean puppet defense ministry that the disarmament question cannot be examined at the moment because the military strength of the South still lags far behind that of the North.

This shows that the South Korean puppets oppose the DPRK-proposed disarmament talks and intend to continue spurring their arms buildup in the 1990s, too, at the instigation of the U.S. imperialist aggressors, the news analyst says, and goes on:

The world people pay due attention to the fact that the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets are pushing the situation on the Korean peninsula to the brink of war, running counter to the global trend toward disarmament and defense.

In openly opposing disarmament, caviling at us, the puppets seek to justify the arms buildup they are now hastening with the U.S. imperialists, divert elsewhere the attention of the public from them and step up more maliciously the preparations for a war against the North.

If the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets truly want peace on the Korean peninsula, they must accept our fair and aboveboard disarmament proposal and come out to the negotiating table at an early date, instead of prattling about fictitious "military predominance of the North."

HANGYORE Cited on Muu, Yim Visit to North

SK23/12050189 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0444 GMT
23 Dec 89

(Text) Pyongyang December 23 (KCNA)—Just as the act of Mr. Kim Ku who crossed the 38th parallel in 1948 was appreciated in view of reunification, so the visit to the North by Rev. Muu Il-hwan and his companion and Yim Su-kyung should be understood in the same view, says the South Korean newspaper HANGYORE SINMUN in an article titled "for nongovernmental exchange between North and South which would open channel of reunification."

The paper says:

People think that they visited the North with the purest and selfless will for reunification.

Their visit to the North which provided an occasion for nongovernmental exchange should be dealt with in view of reunification, not by the "National Security Law" and the "laws" and institutions, legacies of the blind anti-communist period, must be altered.

Even after the "July 7 declaration" the No Tae-oh "government" authorities have suppressed the movement for independent non-governmental exchange more harshly than in the past under the "security-oriented politics" by setting in motion the old "national security law," the anti-communist ideology and "government" power under the cloak of "unified channel of dialogue".

The non-governmental exchange between the North and the South should be achieved autonomously by all quarters of society themselves and the "government" authorities should mediate and render assistance to it because the reunification should be achieved on the basis of the people's will, not being used for the interests of the separatist forces.

If the "government" authorities truly want reunification, they should leave non-governmental exchange between the North and the South to an autonomous judgement of the people themselves and ponder over the tasks to solve the military problem between the North and the South and rule out military interests of foreign forces.

SKNDF Urges Release of Yim Chong-sok
SK2312050589 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0454 GMT
23 Dec 89

(Text) Pyongyang December 23 (KCNA)—The "South Korean National Democratic Front" [SKNDF] (Haenamyon) strongly urges the No Tae-u group to unconditionally and immediately release Yim Chong-sok, fully supporting the struggle of the students and patriotic people of various circles for rescuing him and defending the "National Council of Student Representatives" (Chondachyop).

A spokesman for "Haenamyon" stressed this in a statement December 20, according to radio "Voice of National Salvation".

The statement said:

The No Tae-u group arrested Yim Chong-sok, chairman of "Chondachyop", at last on the charge of the violation of the "National Security Law". It is an entirely unreasonable behavior which cannot be justified by any pretext, and an unpardonable fascist outrage.

Yim Chong-sok is a patriotic student who has fought tirelessly for independence, democracy and reunification and, after being elected chairman of "Chondachyop", has led the grand march of the one million students towards independence, democracy and reunification and made successful delegate Yim So-kyong's participation in the Pyongyang festival, thus demonstrating to the whole world the oneness of our nation and the ardent will of the separated fellow countrymen for reunification. This is a laudable act of particular significance in the history of the nation. Such activities conducted by him cannot be a crime.

Branding the No group's arrest of Yim Chong-sok as the persistent and malicious suppression of the student movement, the vanguard force of the movement for the nation and democracy, of "Chondachyop" in particular, and an open challenge to our people deserves of independence, democracy and reunification, "Haenamyon" scathingly denounces it.

The No group will suffer a miserable failure in any criminal plot and intrigue against chairman of "Chondachyop" Yim Chong-sok, as it did in its despicable political plot during the investigation and trial of Yim So-kyong.

South Student Statement on Fifth Republic Cited
SK2312111489 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1022 GMT
23 Dec 89

(Text) Pyongyang December 23 (KCNA)—The "National Council of Student Representatives" of South Korea made public a statement on December 16 rejecting the "proposal for the liquidation of the Fifth Republic legacies" cooked up at the so-called "talks among leaders at Chongwadar", reported the South Korean paper TONGA (IBD).

Pointing out that the "proposal for the liquidation of the Fifth Republic legacies and the settlement of the Kwangju incident" is a "superficial and formal political action" intended to fool the people, the statement declared that "Chondachyop" will start a nation-wide struggle for a true liquidation of the Fifth Republic legacies".

Noting that the liquidation of the "injustices of the Fifth Republic" is a "national task" the solution of which brooks no delay or compromise, it contended that only an overall settlement including personal and legal liquidation and the appearance of a new proposal can be a "true liquidation of the Fifth Republic legacies".

Protest 'Handed' to U.S. Ambassador on Panama
SK2412080589 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0811 GMT
24 Dec 89

(Text) Pyongyang December 24 (KCNA)—A large number of students turned out to streets on December 23 in five cities of South Korea including Seoul and staged powerful demonstrations, resolutely denouncing the U.S. imperialists' invasion of Panama, according to a report.

Some 250 students of Tongguk University in Seoul staged a fierce fight with riot police on a street, shouting "Yankees, get out of Panama and South Korea at once," "Yankees invaders, get out of Panama." They bitterly denounced the U.S. invasion of Panama, branding it as an "imperialist military demonstration." Protests broke out in Kwangju, Taegu, Pusan, Taejon and other places.

In the meantime, on December 22, students of different universities in Seoul including Koryo University and university of foreign studies passed up wallpapers on the campuses all at once condemning the U.S. aggression on Panama.

In the wallpapers they said that the U.S. invasion of Panama "foretells the possibility of the second Kwangju massacre" in South Korea where U.S. forces 40,000 strong are stationed.

And the "National Alliance of the Movement for the Nation and Democracy" (Chonnamayon) which published a statement denouncing the U.S. aggression on Panama as an unpardonable crime sent to U.S. President Bush a letter of the same content on December 22. The letter of protest was handed to the U.S. ambassador in Seoul.

North Protests U.S. Aerial Exercises 22 Dec

SK2412084889 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0810 GMT
24 Dec 89

[Text] Pyongyang December 24 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialist aggressors staged an aerial military exercise for northward invasion together with the South Korean puppets on December 22 by bringing into the air above the whole land of South Korea a total of 450 nuclear-capable "F-15" and "F-15" fighter-bombers, assault planes, helicopters and reconnaissance planes, according to military sources.

On the same day the U.S. imperialists frantically staged another aerial military exercise by bringing "F-16" and "F-15" fighter-bombers, assault planes, pursuit-assault planes, vertical take-off planes and other types of war planes, over 70 in all, into the air above South Korea from their overseas aggression base in the Pacific region.

The dangerous war game which lasted for several hours was aimed at increasing the "operational capabilities" for quickly moving to the air above the operational zone of the northern half of Korea in "case of contingency".

Such reckless war provocation moves simulating northward invasion committed by the U.S. imperialists in an unbroken chain fully show that they are the chief obstacle to peaceful reunification of Korea and war maniacs.

U.S. Aerial Espionage Missions Reach 130

SK2712091489 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0836 GMT
27 Dec 89

[Text] Pyongyang December 27 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialist aggressors infiltrated AWACS "E-3" from Okinawa, their overseas base of aggression, into the air above South Korea, which flew between the East and the West along the air above the area near the Military Demarcation Line at about 8 hours 50 minutes today, conducting aerial espionage on the deep and wide area of the Northern half of Korea, and its cases reached eight in December, according to military sources.

At around 7 hours today the high-altitude strategic reconnaissance plane "U-2" made a long shuttle flight between the East and the West along the Military Demarcation Line, conducting aerial espionage against the depth of the Northern half of Korea. Similar aerial espionage was committed on 26 occasions up to this date in December.

In the same period the U.S. imperialists let different types of reconnaissance planes including "EV-1" conduct aerial espionage on 130 occasions.

This clearly shows that they are watching for a chance to invade the North, obstinately resorting to the war policy.

Reinforcement at U.S. Embassy Seoul Demanded

SK2512110889 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1039 GMT
25 Dec 89

[Text] Pyongyang December 25 (KCNA)—The No Taek group on December 22 ordered all the police stations to tighten guard of U.S. institutions, saying that students, incited by the U.S. imperialists' invasion of Panama, might attack U.S. buildings including its embassy in Seoul, according to a report from Seoul.

On this order police forces have been massively mobilized and the guard of the U.S. Embassy in Seoul and other local ruling tools of the U.S. imperialists has been further reinforced.

As for the U.S. imperialists' armed invasion of Panama, it is a brutal state terrorism to stifle an independent and sovereign state and a vicious crime disturbing world peace and security.

The entire Korean people and the world peace-loving people are now bitterly denouncing the U.S. imperialists' burglarious act and strongly urging them to withdraw their blood-stained hands from Panama at once.

But the No Taek group, far from lending an ear to the loud voices of protest and condemnation coming from every part of the world, has intensified the guard of the U.S. imperialists' aggressive institutions. This act strips bare once again its despicable color as the enemy of independence, sovereignty and peace and the colonial stooges.

With no last-ditch efforts can the scum of history save their destiny, having lived out their days, but will be thrown into the dust bin of history.

Kim Il-sung Receives Japanese Delegation

SK2912111289 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1032 GMT
29 Dec 89

[Text] Pyongyang December 29 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-sung today received Choji Kuno, member of the House of Representatives of Japan and chairman of the Dietmen's League for the promotion of Japan-Korea Friendship, and Hideyoshi Hidemitsu, member of the House of Representatives, chairman of the special measure committee on the Korean affairs of the Japan Socialist Party and general secretary of the league, on a visit to Korea.

Kim Yong-sun, director, and Kim Yang-keon, vice-director, of a department of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, were present there.

President Kim Il-sung conversed with the guests in a cordial and friendly atmosphere. The guests presented a gift to him.

He arranged a luncheon for them.

Japanese Give Gift to Kim Jong-il

SK2312152789 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1512 GMT
23 Dec 89

[Text] Pyongyang December 23 (KCNA)—The visiting delegation of the Dietmen's League for the Promotion of Japan-Korea Friendship presented a gift to the dear leader Comrade Kim Jong-il.

Chen Kuno, member of the House of Representatives of Japan and chairman of the league, who is heading the delegation handed it to an official concerned.

Congratulatory Messages Sent to CSSR Leaders

Kim Yong-nam Greets Counterpart

SK2312111089 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1036 GMT
23 Dec 89

[Text] Pyongyang December 23 (KCNA)—Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam sent a message of greetings to Jiri Dienstbier upon his appointment as foreign minister of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

The message expressed the belief that the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries would develop favourably in the future, too.

Yan Hyung-muk Hails New Premier

SK2312111089 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1034 GMT
23 Dec 89

[Text] Pyongyang December 23 (KCNA)—Premier of the Administration Council Yan Hyung-muk sent a message of greetings to Marian Calfa, premier of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

The message warmly congratulated him on his appointment as premier of Czechoslovakia.

Expressing the belief that the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries will develop in all fields in the interests of the two peoples, it sincerely wished him success in his responsible work.

Yang Salutes Assembly Chairman

SK2312110629 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1057 GMT
23 Dec 89

[Text] Pyongyang December 23 (KCNA)—Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of the standing committee of the Supreme People's Assembly, sent a message to Stanislav Kukral, congratulating him upon his election as chairman of the Federal Assembly of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

Expressing the belief that the friendly and cooperative relations between the assemblies of the two countries will develop in the future, the message wished him success in his responsible work.

Pakistani Broadcasting Delegation Pays Visit

Kim Yong-nam Meets Minister

SK221224089 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1000 GMT
22 Dec 89

[Text] Pyongyang December 22 (KCNA)—Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam today met and had a friendly conversation at the Mansudae Assembly Hall with the Pakistani information and broadcasting delegation headed by Ahmad Syed Awan, minister of state for information and broadcast of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

Present there were officials concerned and Pakistani Ambassador to Korea Jafar Habib.

Yi Mong-ko Attends Reception

SK2312045089 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0440 GMT
23 Dec 89

[Text] Pyongyang December 23 (KCNA)—Mustafa Salami, ambassador of the State of Palestine to Korea, gave a reception at his embassy Thursday evening to mark the end of "day of international solidarity with the Palestinian people."

Invited to the reception were Chairman of the Committee for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries Y Mong-ko and other officials concerned.

Speeches were made there by Ambassador Mustafa Salami and Vice-chairman of the Committee for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries Pak Tong-chun.

Information Delegation Ends Visit

SK2412040189 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0834 GMT
24 Dec 89

[Text] Pyongyang December 24 (KCNA)—The Pakistani information and broadcasting delegation led by Ahmad Saied Awan, minister of state for information and broadcast, concluded its five-day visit to Korea.

It was received by the great leader President Kim Il-sung.

During its stay here, the delegation visited Mangyongdae and toured Pyongyang and other areas and had talks with a delegation of the Korean information committee.

Prior to departure, the head of the delegation called a press conference here. He said the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries have grown stronger and developed on the basis of the close intimacy formed between respected his excellency President Kim Il-sung and former Pakistani Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto.

Giving impressions of Korean visit, he said he has learned again that the Korean people are not an ordinary people but a talented people beyond imagination. His excellency President Kim Il-sung is the great man of the world, he stressed.

Pakistan hopes that Korea will be reunified independently and peacefully by the efforts of the Korean people themselves without any foreign interference in accordance with the three principles of national reunification advanced by respected his excellency president and fully supports your people's efforts for this, he declared.

Pakistani Senate Delegation Makes Official Visit

Delegation Arrives 23 Dec

SK2412085189 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0817 GMT
24 Dec 89

[Text] Pyongyang December 24 (KCNA)—A senate delegation of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan headed by Javed Jabbar, minister of state for science and technology, arrived here Saturday.

It was met at the airport by Yi Cha-hang, chairman of the State Commission of Science and Technology, and deputy to the Supreme People's Assembly, and other officials concerned and Pakistani Ambassador to Korea Zafar Habib.

The standing committee of the Supreme People's Assembly invited the delegation to a party in the evening.

Kim Il-sung Receives Group

SK251211189 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1001 GMT
25 Dec 89

[Text] Pyongyang December 25 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-sung today received the senate delegation of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan led by Javed Jabbar, minister of state for science and technology, on a visit to Korea.

Present there were Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of the standing committee of the Supreme People's Assembly (SPA), deputy to the SPA Yi Cha-hang, chairman of the State Commission of Science and Technology, Choe Su-hon, vice-minister of foreign affairs, and Pak Myong-ku, DPRK ambassador c.p. to Pakistan.

Zafar Habib, Pakistani ambassador c.p. to Korea, was on hand.

President Kim Il-sung conversed with the guests in a cordial and friendly atmosphere.

The head of the delegation handed him a gift of his excellency Ghulam Ishaq Khan, president of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

Yang Hyong-sop Meets Members

SK2512112889 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1004 GMT
25 Dec 89

[Text] Pyongyang December 25 (KCNA)—Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly (SPA), on December 24 met and had a friendly conversation at the Mansudae Assembly Hall with the senate delegation of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan headed by Javed Jabbar, minister of state for science and technology, who paid a courtesy call on him.

Present there were deputy to the SPA Yi Cha-hang, chairman of the State Commission of Science and Technology, other officials concerned and Zafar Habib, Pakistani ambassador to Korea.

Kim Jong-il Receives Present

SK2512112589 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1053 GMT
25 Dec 89

[Text] Pyongyang December 25 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Jong-il received a gift from his Excellency Ghulam Ishaq Khan, president of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

The gift was handed to Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly, by Javed Jabbar, Minister of State for Science and Technology who is heading a senate delegation of Pakistan on a visit to Korea.

Zimbabwe's Mugabe on Support for Reunification

SK2512105189 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1006 GMT
25 Dec 89

[Text] Pyongyang December 25 (KCNA)—Zimbabwean President Robert G. Mugabe supported the cause of national reunification of the Korean people when he met with the delegation of the Workers' Party of Korea headed by Yi Chong-ik, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and vice-president, on December 23.

The Zimbabwean president said the dispatch of a high-level delegation to the National People's Congress of the Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front by the great leader President Kim Il-sung and dear Comrade Kim Jong-il is a great encouragement to him.

The party unification congress was held successfully thanks to the positive support and encouragement of the fraternal parties including the Workers' Party of Korea, he declared.

Zimbabwe will in the future, too, support the proposals for national reunification advanced by President Kim Il-sung, he stated.

He declared that Zimbabwe would continue to advance along the road of socialism.

Reception Marks Birthday of Kim Chong-suk
SK2912051309 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0525 GMT
23 Dec 89

[Text] Pyongyang December 23 (KCNA)—The Pyongyang Municipal Administration and Economic Guidance Committee arranged a film reception Thursday on the 72nd birth anniversary of Comrade Kim Chong-suk, an indomitable communist revolutionary fighter and an anti-Japanese heroine.

Invited there were foreign guests staying in Korea.

Han Pong-yong, vice-chairman of the Pyongyang Municipal Administration and Economic Guidance Committee, and other officials concerned were present.

They saw the Korean feature film "Far Away From Headquarters".

'Revolutionary Exploits' of Kim Chong-suk Noted
SK2412061309 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0535 GMT
24 Dec 89

[Text] Pyongyang December 24 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today writes of imperishable revolutionary exploits performed by Comrade Kim Chong-suk, an indomitable communist revolutionary fighter, in the struggle for the liberation of the fatherland and the victory of the Korean revolution, on her 72nd birth anniversary.

An article of the paper says:

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-sung has taught:

"Comrade Kim Chong-suk was an ardent revolutionary who fought devotedly for the liberation of the fatherland and for the victory of our revolution".

The revolutionary life of Comrade Kim Chong-suk was a glorious cause which shines with great expiations for the revolutionary cause of chuch'e, the cause of socialism and communism.

She made an undying contribution to the struggle for the revolutionary cause of chuch'e, the cause of socialism and communism, by closely rallying the popular masses around the great leader and strengthening the subject of our revolution, with boundless loyalty to the leader.

She held (in) esteem the great leader as the supreme basis of the Korean revolution, the center of unity, the center of leadership, and thought and acted always in accordance with the leader's idea and intention.

She educated members of the Korean people's revolutionary army and people to show intense loyalty, judging and acting on the basis of the idea of the great leader under whatever circumstances.

Comrade Kim Chong-suk greatly contributed to strengthening the subject of our revolution by closely rallying the masses of the people behind the great leader.

The anti-Japanese armed struggle was an arduous national liberation war in a colony waged against the formidable Japanese imperialists with the strength of our people themselves. So a victory could be won only when the independent subject of revolution was strengthened by rallying the popular masses around the great leader organizationally and ideologically.

It was none other than Comrade Kim Chong-suk who discharged most brilliantly this heavy duty raised by our revolution.

She thoroughly carried out the revolutionary line and strategic and tactical policies put forward by the great leader and made a great contribution to the accomplishment of the cause of the liberation of the fatherland by conducting sweeping military and political activities.

The members of the Korean people's revolutionary army and broad segments of the people deeply revered Comrade Kim Chong-suk as the tested leader of our revolution, who carried into practice most brilliantly the idea and intention of the great leader as his closest revolutionary comrade-in-arms in the period of the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle, stresses the article.

Symposium on Slogans-Bearing Trees Held 21 Dec
SK2312051309 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0530 GMT
23 Dec 89

[Text] Pyongyang December 23 (KCNA)—Nearly 8,000 trees bearing revolutionary slogans have been discovered in recent years throughout the country from the northern regions centering around the secret camp of Mt. Paektu, the holy mountain of revolution to Pyongyang, and Mt. Kuwol area of South Hwanghae Province.

A national symposium on the trees took place in Pyongyang on December 21.

Noted personages in the field of party cadre training, social science, education, military education in their speeches said that the newly-discovered trees reflect the history of the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle in many peculiar slogans. They are a historical record of our party's revolutionary traditions established in the course of the guidance of the Korean revolution to victory by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-sung with his outstanding idea and tested leadership, they said, and continued:

Reflected in the slogans are the revolutionary idea and the feats of the leadership of the great leader who put forward the strategy and tactics of revolution on the basis of the chuch'e idea and led to victory the Korean revolution as a whole with the anti-Japanese armed struggle as its center.

The slogan-bearing trees prove the fact that the great leader waged the anti-Japanese armed struggle in reliance on the internal revolutionary forces with revolutionary bases at home centering around the Mt. Paektu secret camp as the headquarters and delivered a heavy

blow at the Japanese imperialist aggressors with the chache-based guerrilla tactics and triumphantly led the anti-Japanese armed struggle.

They also prove the sweeping military and political activities conducted by the units of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army to bring the line of all-people resistance advanced by him and its validity home to broad masses of people, closely rally them around the all-people resistance organization and rouse them to the final decisive battle for the liberation of the country.

Particularly, the trees praise the birth of dear Comrade Kim Jong-il as a historical event which provided for the inheritance of the revolutionary cause of chache and reflect the undying feats performed by Comrade Kim Jong-suk, an anti-Japanese heroine, for the cause of national liberation, assisting the great leader.

The slogan-bearing trees are precious wealth conveying the historic records of the leadership of the great leader who led the anti-Japanese armed struggle to victory.

Secret Wartime Camp New Base of Education

SK2412084289 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0803 GMT
24 Dec 89

[Text] Pyongyang December 24 (KCNA)—Mt. Sono secret camp has been rearranged in the area of Mt. Paektu, the northern region of Korea, as one more base of education in the revolutionary traditions.

It is situated in the depth of Mt. Sono which forms a natural fortress on a bank of the Amnok river 12 kilometres down south from Mt. Paektu.

Preserved there are the site where the great leader Comrade Kim Il-sung camped after guiding the building of Mt. Paektu secret camp in the autumn of 1936 and immortal records of his leading the Korean revolution to a great upsurge at this place several times in the later period.

There are also historical records of the energetic guidance of underground workers at home by Comrade Kim Jong-suk, an indomitable communist revolutionary fighter and anti-Japanese heroine.

Recalling the Mt. Sono secret camp with deep emotion, Comrade Kim Il-sung said that this camp was mainly used as an intermediate liaison center of Korean people's revolutionary army units which were active at home.

Preserved and displayed there are six slogans written on trees including "Comrades, let us vigorously turn out in the anti-Japanese war under General Kim, the leader of the nation," "Long live the victory of the great anti-Japanese war," and "Unity, anti-Japanese struggle," 192 bayonet trees, sites of houses, tents, camping fire, a shallow well, empty cartridges, and many other revolutionary relics and remains.

The Mt. Sono secret camp, together with other secret camps in the area of Mt. Paektu laid out on the principle of building bases indicated by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-sung, was a place of weighty significance in strengthening the subject of the Korean revolution and expanding the anti-Japanese armed struggle deep into the homeland to promote the historical cause of the (liberation) of the country.

Since Mt. Paektu secret camp was opened to the visitors, the Sajabong, Mt. Kom and Mt. Sono secret camps have been rearranged one after another to greatly contribute to the education of working people and younger generation in the revolutionary traditions.

Meeting of KPA LSWYK Functionaries Opens

SK2312152589 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1503 GMT
23 Dec 89

[Text] Pyongyang December 23 (KCNA)—The second meeting of functionaries of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea [LSWYK] in the Korean People's Army [KPA] opened today at the February 8 House of Culture.

The meeting will review the past ten years of work for implementing the highly important teachings given by the great leader President Kim Il-sung at the meeting of KPA's LSWYK functionaries and discuss tasks to further improve the LSWYK work in the People's Army in response to the party's militant calls.

The meeting was attended by People's Army political workers and LSWYK functionaries, model functionaries of LSWYK primary organizations and LSWYK members.

O Chin-u, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and minister of People's Armed Forces, read out at the meeting a congratulatory message of the WPK Central Committee to the participants in the meeting.

The message points out that the LSWYK organizations in the People's Army have built up LSWYK ranks more solidly in keeping with the requirements of the developing reality, actively improved guidance of the activities in the league and increased the function and role of LSWYK organizations in every way, thus preparing young soldiers as dependable, militant reserves and true youth vanguard of our party.

It notes that they should intensify education in loyalty to the party and the leader in conformity to the demands of the developing revolution, energetically carry on political and ideological education under the slogan "Let us all become Kim Chin and Yi Su-pok of the '90s," Work hard to make a trait of heroic struggle and spirit of innovation pervade the whole Army and effect fresh changes in the carrying out of military tasks, and further

strengthen and develop the LSWYK organizations into militant political organizations.

Yi Chong-nu, chairman of the KPA committee of the LSWYK, made a report at the meeting.

He recalled that during the days of their guidance of the Korean youth movement on the whole the great leader President Kim Il-sung and the party have paid particular attention to work with the young people in the revolutionary armed forces and shown all concern for the strengthening and development of this work.

Referring proudly to the epochal changes that have taken place in the organizational work among young people in the People's Army during the past decade, he said the LSWYK organizations in the People's Army, in the 1980s, are faced with heavy yet honourable tasks to rear young soldiers as revolutionary soldiers boundlessly faithful to the party's leadership under the slogan "Let us all become Kim Chin and Yi Su-pok of the '80s" And strengthen the People's Army into invincible fighting ranks to firmly guarantee the revolutionary cause of chuch'e by force of arms.

Then he proposed concrete measures to this end.

Speeches were made at the meeting.

A congratulatory group of heroes of the KPA entered the meeting hall and read out a congratulatory message to the second meeting of KPA's LSWYK functionaries.

The meeting continues.

* Movement To Learn From Unsung Heroes Urged

902C00324 Pyongyang NODONG SINMUN in Korean
7 Oct 89 p 1

[Editorial: "Let Us Go Forward With Intensifying and Developing the Movement To Learn From the Examples of Unsung Heroes"]

[Text] Ten years have passed since the movement to learn from the examples of unsung heroes was launched. In this period great changes have taken place in the mental and ideological features of our party members and workers, and amazing successes have been scored in socialist economic and cultural construction.

We are now looking back with great pride upon the course of the movement to learn from the examples of unsung heroes, which has demonstrated its immense vitality in accelerating socialist construction since it was launched under the leadership of the party.

Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the WPK [Workers' Party of Korea] Central Committee and secretary of the Party Central Committee, pointed out as follows:

"The movement to learn from the examples of unsung heroes is attractive because it correctly reflects the desire of our people and the new requirements of the developing revolution."

The movement to learn from the examples of unsung heroes is an ideological transformation movement embodying the party's policy of indoctrination to influence people through positive examples in conformity with the requirements of our revolution at its new, higher stage of development in which "conversion of the whole society to the chuch'e idea" (p) is in progress.

This movement is a great mass movement designed to bring about an upswing in socialist construction by influencing all members of society with the positive examples of unsung heroes to turn them into chuch'e-oriented communist revolutionaries infinitely loyal to the party and the leader and by bringing the revolutionary fervor and creative positiveness of the masses into full play.

The movement to learn from the examples of unsung heroes has been vigorously carried out over these past 10 years, bringing about great changes in the revolution and socialist construction.

One of the brilliant achievements made through the movement to learn from the examples of unsung heroes is the raising up of a large contingent of stalwart chuch'e-oriented communist revolutionaries who are continuing to fight with their infinite loyalty to the party and the leader.

The unsung heroes are the models of chuch'e-oriented communists. They have shown noble examples of how one should devotedly struggle, whether someone else watches or not, by giving their all for the good of the party and the leader, with infinite loyalty to the party and the leader. By actively seeking to learn from the intellectual and ideological features of unsung heroes, loyalty to the party and the leader has been heightened among party members and workers and the fine communist mores have burst into full bloom. The whole society is brimming over with the spirit of absolutism and unconditionality, the ethics of thinking and behaving in accordance with party intentions and of continuing to fight, not hesitating to jump into fire and water when called by the party. This is a clear demonstration of the immense vitality of the movement to learn from the examples of unsung heroes.

The movement to learn from the examples of unsung heroes is a mass innovation movement which vigorously propels socialist economic construction. With the intensification and development of this movement, marked progress has come to be made in the acceleration of the chuch'eization, modernization, and scientization of the national economy and the flames of collective innovation have risen still higher.

In the course of the movement to learn from the examples of unsung heroes, the great-leader-style work

method, the traditional work method of our party, has been brilliantly implemented, the work method and work style of our functionaries have been further improved, and the militant functions and roles of party organizations have been enhanced.

Through the movement to learn from the examples of unsung heroes, the kindred ties between the party and the masses have been firmly consolidated, and the wholehearted unity of our people, rallying around the party and the leader, has been solidified.

The movement to learn from the examples of unsung heroes—which has brought about great changes in the intellectual and ideological features of our people, in economic and cultural construction, and in all aspects of party life—would have been impossible but for the energetic and sagacious leadership of the party.

Our party not only initiated the mass movement to seek out unsung heroes and popularize their examples, but also has clearly elucidated the direction, methods, and tasks for vigorously pushing this movement, and this elucidation has served as a valuable guide for achieving great successes by constantly intensifying and developing the movement to learn from the examples of unsung heroes.

Our party has sagaciously led the task of intensifying and developing the movement to learn from the examples of unsung heroes onto a new, higher stage particularly to suit the demands of the developing revolution. Documents published by the dear Comrade Kim Jong-il, including "Let One and All Live and Struggle Like Heroes" have shifted the movement to brilliantly carry forward and develop the heroic militant tradition of our people and to learn from the examples of unsung heroes to a banner of encouragement in inspiring party members and workers to further heroic struggle. Last year our party enabled the national conference of heroes to be held in a manner which illustrated the high political and ideological standards of the unsung heroes, thereby paving the way for popularizing the achievements and experiences gained through the movement to learn from the examples of unsung heroes and to further intensify and develop this movement.

The movement to learn from the examples of unsung heroes is vigorously in progress, and through this movement the task to capture the ideological and material fortresses of communism is being successfully accelerated—this reality bears clear testimony to the sagacity of our party's leadership. We should further intensify and develop the movement to learn from the examples of unsung heroes which has proved to be the most valid and invincible way of enhancing our daily life.

Comrade Kim Jong-il, member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and secretary of the Party Central Committee, pointed out as follows:

"We must further intensify and develop the movement to win the Red Flag of Three Revolutions and the movement to learn from the examples of unsung heroes."

In intensifying and developing the movement to learn from the examples of unsung heroes, it is most important for party organizations and functionaries to take the right stand and have the right point of view toward this movement.

The movement to learn from the examples of unsung heroes is one initiated and led by our party, and it is a mass movement designed to remake people in the communist way and effect collective innovation in socialist construction. It embodies our party's noble intention to enable all party members and workers to live a worthy, rewarding life and realize the cause of converting the whole society to the chuch'e ideology. That is why the task to continue to intensify and develop this movement should be made a daily voluntary task for our party organizations and functionaries who uphold the ideas and intentions of the party and the leader.

The purpose of our party in adopting the policy of converting the whole society to the chuch'e ideology and implementing this policy is to make all members of the society into chuch'e-oriented communist-type human beings who live and work according to the demands of the chuch'e ideology, like unsung heroes. To intensify and develop the movement to learn from the examples of unsung heroes is not a mere administrative work but a task of remaking people into communist-type human beings under the banner of the chuch'e ideology, a task which will successfully build socialism and communism. Party organizations and functionaries at all levels should cherish the party intention to intensify and develop the movement to learn from the examples of unsung heroes and should go forward holding it close to their hearts.

They should provide substantive guidance in order to constantly intensify and develop the movement to learn from the examples of unsung heroes by appropriate methods.

In every task, the key to success lies in carrying out work in a substantive way by using an appropriate method.

Party organizations and functionaries at all levels should actively search and implement concrete methodologies suitable to their actual conditions, with a high sense of responsibility to execute the tasks in a revolutionary manner. In this connection, it is important to work out measures to seek positive examples and popularize them.

A mass movement gains its vitality when it springs from and becomes rooted in the masses.

Party organizations and functionaries at all levels should vigorously carry out the work of learning from unsung heroes' infinite loyalty to the party and the leader, and linking this work to the actual conditions of party

organizations and functionaries. In addition, they should seek out positive examples and give prominence to such examples, and actively support innovative suggestions made by the masses and make efforts to help these suggestions bear fruit. Particularly, they should widely publicize and popularize among the masses the good communist morals and manners prevalent in society. In doing so, they should make this movement serve as a powerful driving force which inspires all workers to heroic struggle in conformity with the party's intention to have them lead a worthy life by rendering distinguished services to the country and people.

The movement to win the Red Flag of Three Revolutions and the movement to learn from the examples of unsung heroes in progress under the leadership of our party are both powerful mass movements designed to remake people in the communist way and effect collective innovation in socialist construction. For this reason, it is imperative to push these movements simultaneously as a single unified process.

All branches and all units should carry out the movement to learn from the examples of unsung heroes and the movement to win the Red Flag of Three Revolutions in close conjunction with one another in working out and implementing goals and in summing up the implementation of these goals. Wherever we may be, we should always vigorously push forward with the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural—like unsung heroes, and create more unsung heroes and unknown persons of merit who will rise from the flames of the three revolutions.

Partywide guidance in the movement to learn from unsung heroes should be stepped up.

To carry out the movement to learn from the examples of unsung heroes as a party committee-wide task is the policy of our party. As our experience in the past shows, at how high a level and how effectively this movement will be carried out depends, importantly, on the roles played by party committees at all levels.

To further intensify and develop the movement to learn from the examples of unsung heroes is a responsible task which our party today proposes as an important one. Therefore, responsible party functionaries should personally grasp and lead this movement and set all branches of party committees in motion so that they work together in the interest of the whole. Party organizations at all levels should explain and widely publicize among the masses the sagacity of our party's leadership, and its achievements in leading the movement to learn from the examples of unsung heroes. In addition, they should sum up the successes and experience in carrying out this movement and discuss ways to wage it more effectively, and conduct responsible organizational and guidance work designed to push the movement with tenacity.

All functionaries and workers should uphold the party's lofty intention and further intensify and develop the

movement to learn from the examples of unsung heroes, to suit the demands of developing realities.

* Editorial Urges Accelerating S&T Revolution

902C0033 Pyongyang NODDONG SINMUN in Korean
12 Oct 89 p 1

[Editorial: "Let Us Further Enhance the Role of Guidance Functionaries in Accomplishing the Technological Revolution"]

[Text] Now our people are holding aloft the Banner of the Three Revolutions and strenuously expediting socialist construction under the wise leadership of the party. To achieve a striking advance in this notable grand march to hasten the complete victory of socialism, we must vigorously wage the technological revolution in conjunction with the ideological and cultural revolutions. One of the important questions in successfully accomplishing the technological revolution is raising the role of the guidance functionaries.

The great leader, Comrade Kim Il-sung, taught as follows.

"We must establish the correct viewpoint on science and technology among the guidance functionaries and decisively improve party and state guidance and provision work for scientific research and the technological innovation campaign."¹

The technological revolution is a sacred revolutionary task for strengthening the economic base of the country, endlessly increasing the material welfare of the people, and liberating the workers from arduous labor. It is only by successfully accomplishing the technological revolution that we will be able to settle completely all the scientific and technological issues which are slowing the socialist economic construction, raise the country's science and technology to the world level as soon as possible, and establish more autonomous and creative working and living conditions for the workers.

The party's economic policy which we are carrying out is totally predicated on this technological revolution. The guidance functionaries are the command personnel of revolution who directly organize and direct the struggle to implement the economic policy of the party in the sectors and units involved. Today's guidance functionaries, in an era of science and technology, cannot successfully accomplish any economic task whatever without understanding the technological revolution and putting efforts into it.

All the economic tasks confronting us today amount to a struggle for the high goal of hastening the complete victory of socialism. What is urgently being demanded of any sector and any unit of the national economy, charged with the mammoth economic task of fulfilling the Third 7-Year Plan, is development based on modern science and technology. Likewise, guidance functionaries must exert a greater effort in the technological revolution in

order to uphold the decisions of the 14th and 15th plenums of the Sixth Party Central Committee, continue to vigorously expedite placing the national economy on a chaotic oriented, modern and scientific footing, realize the automation, robotization and computerization of production and achieve an industrial revolution in light industry.

An important assurance for successfully accomplishing this year's broad plan in every sector of the national economy, bringing about technological progress, and advancing and realizing the new and vast long-range goals can be found in vigorously expediting this technological revolution.

Our party now demands that all guidance functionaries continue to hold aloft the banner of the technological revolution, wage the grand march to conquer the high peak of science and technology, and achieve a new advance in accomplishing the technological revolution.

All functionaries must adopt the technological revolution as an important strategic line, conforming to the will of the party, and vigorously push it forward.

In order to vigorously expedite the technological revolution, the functionaries must first understand and adopt a position concerning it.

The guidance functionaries are the organizers and executors for accomplishing the technological revolution. For the technological revolution, as in every work, success hinges on the understanding and views of the guidance functionaries who must confront this question. The guidance functionaries must be steadfast in their views as they seek to adopt new technology, modernize the production processes, endlessly increase production, and liberate the workers from all strenuous work. The functionaries should never underestimate technological innovation, no matter how taxing the production assignment they face might appear, but must consider solving the problems they face in production through the use of innovative technology. They should know how to recover through technological innovation the savings that result from increased production and conservation.

The viewpoint of guidance functionaries concerning the technological revolution should be manifest in their work with technicians. Inasmuch as the production process is indeed a technological process, technology must be strengthened and the role of the technicians must be heightened. Guidance functionaries in the labor administration sector, factories, and enterprises must cherish and esteem the technicians, and through administrative methods provide better trained workers in the technological sector than in other sectors, provide good working conditions for them, and arrange for the technological revolution to be enthusiastically pursued.

A person who puts his shoulder into technical innovation and puts it into practice with a lofty revolutionary spirit is really a functionary who works according to the will and demands of our party. Guidance functionaries

in every sector and all units of the national economy must accurately formulate scientific and technological development plans, and expedite them in a planned manner while rendering substantial assistance to their accomplishment and conducting wrap-up sessions in conjunction with production planning.

Inasmuch as the technological revolution is one of the revolutions accompanying our struggle with obsolete methods, it will be difficult to accomplish. Twists and turns and even failures can be found in the process of conquering the fortress of new science and technology, and it can take a long time. Nevertheless, if the functionaries waver or stop in midstream, they will be unable to accomplish anything. When scientists, technicians, and workers are having difficulty, the guidance functionaries must give them strength to rally, suffer along with them, solve problems encountered and apply themselves to the end.

The masses are the masters and creators of technology. The creative skills and wisdom of the scientists, technicians and workers must be actively organized and mobilized to accomplish the technological revolution so that new technological inventions can come to light, and socialist economic construction can be promoted at a rapid pace. Guidance functionaries in all units of production and construction including factories and enterprises must rally the scientists, technicians and workers to take part in scientific research and the mass technological innovation campaign.

The functionaries must actively support, promote and develop the initiative of the scientists, technicians and workers in scientific research and the technological innovation campaign. Accordingly, they must see to it that many more people become involved in technological innovation and creative design.

Intensifying the creative cooperation of scientists, technicians and workers is a consistent part of the program to which our party adheres in order to accomplish the technological revolution.

Guidance functionaries in the various sectors of the national economy such as factories and enterprises must further intensify creative cooperation among workers, scientists and technicians who are intimately tied to scientific research organizations and thereby be able to settle all questions which arise in production and construction, and enable new scientific and technological successes to become recognized.

The technical innovation shock brigade campaign which has emanated from our party is a mass innovation campaign which plays a large role in accomplishing the technological revolution. Guidance functionaries in every sector of the national economy must intensify work with technical innovation shock brigades such as the "15 April Technical Innovation Shock Brigade" and the "17 February Scientist, Technician Shock Brigade." Accordingly, they must add luster to their glory as

frontrunners in realizing the automatization, robotization and computerization of production, setting up the production process, production methodology and management activities on a scientific basis, develop farming and fishing based on modern biological successes, and use our country's fuel resources to provide power for heating buildings and houses.

What is important in the role of the guidance functionaries in accomplishing the technological revolution is incorporating scientific and technological success into production at the right time.

Any scientific or technological success, no matter how magnificent it might be, is useful only when it is incorporated into production. All guidance functionaries must always be sensitive to new technology even when furthering on-going production and take the lead in incorporating the successes of scientific research and technological innovation into production.

In order to facilitate the accomplishment of the technological revolution in conformity with the will of the party, party guidance must be intensified.

The technological revolution is the key to the campaign to capture the Red Flag of the Three Revolutions and a project which the party organizations must adopt and promote. All party organizations at every level must clearly reflect the scientific and technological development plan, stage by stage, within the goals of the campaign to capture the Red Flag of the Three Revolutions. They must profoundly explain to and imbue the functionaries and workers with the party line on the technological revolution, vigorously organize and mobilize them to accomplish the technological revolution and help and prod the functionaries to actively expedite it with the correct viewpoint and attitude.

In particular, they must properly perform their work with the functionaries in the scientific and technological sector, including scientific research organizations and designing organizations so that they devote all their creative wisdom and ardor to scientific and technological projects.

The members of the Three Revolutions Teams are entrusted with important duties in accomplishing the technological revolution.

Three Revolutions Team members in all sectors of the national economy must set the example by taking the lead in accomplishing the technological revolution and vigorously lead the masses, as they did in the past.

Our party's program of the technological revolution is most appropriate and the more it progresses the greater vitality it displays.

When the guidance functionaries adopt the party line on the technological revolution, in conjunction with the ideological and cultural revolutions, and proceed to implement it thoroughly, our fatherland will be further

enriched, living standards will be rapidly raised and the complete victory of socialism will be more quickly hastened.

Footnote 1. "Kim Il-sung Selected Works," Vol 9, p 463

Kim Il-song, Kim Chong-il Inspire Salt Industry

SK2312112089 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1014 GMT
23 Dec 89

[Text] Pyongyang December 23 (KCNA)—A meeting of activists in the field of salt industry was held in Pyongyang on December 22.

It was attended by Yon Hyung-muk, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and premier of the Administration Council, and Pak Nam-kil, secretary of the WPK Central Committee.

A report and speeches were made there.

According to them, the salt output in Korea has increased 9.5 times as against 1945 and modernly equipped salt production bases have been built.

A great success has been made in salt production notably this year, the last year of the 1980s.

All the salters have well repaired and readjusted the salt fields, overfulfilled the plan for the production of salty water in winter by 13 percent, taking the general bureau of salt industry as a whole, increased the fields of preliminary evaporation and moved up the date of new salt production. As a result, the general bureau of salt industry overfulfilled its plan of salt production on October 7.

It was stressed at the meeting that the brilliant achievements made in the industry were results of the wise guidance of the great leader President Kim Il-song and dear Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Discussed at the meeting were measures to bring about a decisive turn in salt production such as decisively increasing the per-hectare salt output and further modernizing and scientizing salt production.

A resolution was adopted at the meeting.

Upswing Effect in Producing Mining Machines

SK2312151089 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1500 GMT
23 Dec 89

[Text] Pyongyang December 23 (KCNA)—An upswing previously unknown has been effected in the production of mining equipment in Korea.

Chang Chun-hwan, director of the General Bureau of the Mining Machine Industry, said the factories under the General Bureau topped their plans for the production of coal mining equipment 30 to 50 percent in December.

The Chonchon rock drill factory, the Pyongyang Coal Mining Machine Factory and the Hoeryong Coal Mining Machine Factory have applied many technical innovation proposals to hit the production targets at 130 percent in rock drills, 150 percent in mega-size chain conveyors and 200 percent in high-power chain conveyors and coal carts.

The Sunchon Coal Mining Machine Factory, the August 28 Factory, the Tongnon Electrical Machinery Plant and the Changsan Electrical Machinery Plant remodeled the production processes and increased the operation rate of equipment to boost the production of electric cars, loaders and electrical appliances of all kinds 30 percent.

Besides, the May 10 Factory, the August 9 Factory, the September 28 Factory, the Sanwon Mining Machine Factory and other factories under the General Bureau have produced quantities of large-size, modernized and high-speed coal mining equipment to remarkably increase the standard of technical equipment of coal mines.

Construction of Caustic Soda Factory Progresses

SK/1812100809 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1007 GMT
18 Dec 89

[Text] PYONGYANG December 18 (KCNA)— Soldier-builders are now building the caustic soda factory at a high speed as part of the second-stage construction of the Sunkon Vinylon Complex, a large-scale chemical industrial base of Korea.

The annual production capacity of this factory is 250,000 tons.

The soldiers have built in a short time 15 objects such as the liquid chlorine tank, the compressor room, and general storehouse.

They have also laid a 2,000-metre long railway and built a road extending thousands of metres.

They moved 86,000 cubic metres of earth, tamped 8,700 cubic metres of concrete, assembled 2,100 cubic metres of pre-fab parts and assembled 180 tons of steel structures.

South Korea

Dailies Criticize U.S. Invasion of Panama

SK/2412061559

[Editorial Report] Seoul vernacular papers on 21 and 22 December carry editorials on the U.S. military action in Panama. CHUNGANG ILBO on 21 December on page 2 carries a 1,000-word editorial headlined "An Armed Invasion Goes Against the Trend of the Times—U.S. Troops' Attack on Panama Is a Bad Precedent." Terming the armed invasion of Panama by U.S. troops "an unfortunate event in terms of the future of the international political atmosphere which is moving

toward detente and peaceful coexistence after twists and turns," the editorial says. "It is understandable that Gen. Noriega, who has acted like an outlaw in dealing with issues between the United States and Panama as well as in ruling Panama, has spawned seeds of feuds. However, his acts are not enough to justify a major power's armed invasion of weak neighboring countries."

After citing the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan and the pullout of the Vietnamese troops from Cambodia, the editorial notes: "The major concern about the latest invasion is that the United States has employed an act of swimming against such trends as solving regional disputes." Then, the editorial notes Noriega's involvement in drug trafficking and says that "U.S. armed invasion of Panama will, above all, lead to a great controversy in the international community in that it was an infringement on the sovereignty of another country through military acts and in this context, the Bush administration seems to be running a very dangerous risk."

KYONGHANG SINMUN on 21 December on page 2 carries a 1,000-word editorial under the heading "U.S. Military Invasion of Panama." "Apart from the issue of whether it is justified or not," says the editorial, "the U.S. armed invasion of Panama on 20 December under the pretext of capturing Gen. Manuel Noriega, Panama's strongman who is accused of having been involved in drug trafficking, cannot avoid being denounced as an act of infringing on the sovereignty of a small nation." Expressing concerns about the possibility of it having had impact on the atmosphere of breaking away from the cold war and on the detente mood between the United States and the Soviet Union, the editorial says "the moral question about U.S. armed invasion perpetrated without warning is in itself a question."

It then notes: "The fact that Guillermo Endara, who is known as being pro-U.S., was sworn in as president of Panama shortly after the U.S. military action was undertaken against Panama is enough to arouse suspicion in connection with the agreement on transferring the right to the Panama Canal slated for 1999, despite the U.S. Administration's official denial."

"Because it might fuel anti-U.S. sentiment in Central America," the editorial notes, "the United States seems to be in a gamble from which it can gain less and lose more." The editorial continues to cite the U.S. invasion of Grenada, military assistance given to the Philippines for putting down a coup d'état, and then urges the United States to remember that there can be no hegemonic countries in the world and that the world is now entering an era of detente and coexistence."

CHOSIN ILBO on 22 December on page 2 carries a 1,000-word editorial headlined "Is the Invasion of Panama Justifiable?" Saying that "the U.S. military action against Panama had long been expected," after repeatedly botched attempts to remove Noriega since

1987, the editorial expresses "concerns about the consequences to which the latest U.S. military action will lead."

After describing how brutal Noriega has been to his political opponents, the editorial says, "Nevertheless, it is also true that Noriega's anti-U.S. bias is supported by some of the peoples in Panama's neighboring countries who are unhappy about a U.S.-type of domination in Latin American countries." Foreswearing the possibility of the U.S. military action in Panama being provoked after failing to capture Noriega, the editorial notes the need to heed the U.S. explanation that it had to launch an armed invasion to protect the lives of Americans in Panama, then it says, "One thing, however, must be remembered, that no military action against other countries can be justified if it is undertaken without a declaration of war."

In conclusion, the editorial says that "in order to keep the atmosphere of East-West defense and cooperation, which has come a long way, from being cooled due to the U.S. invasion of Panama, the United States must withdraw its troops from Panama at an early date and the Panamanian people should be guaranteed the right to choose a government of their own."

HANKUK ILBO on 22 December on page 2 carries a 600-word editorial under the heading "The Invasion of Panama that Goes Against Defense." The editorial says that "not only those who are critical of the United States, but also those who are sympathetic with it find the U.S. invasion of Panama to be a stunning event, more shocking than the invasion of Grenada 6 years ago in many aspects." Citing Noriega's declaration that Panama was in a state of war with the United States as an understandable reason for the armed invasion, the editorial notes various kinds of means, including two coup d'état attempts, the United States has employed to remove Noriega and sees the latest armed invasion as "its last resort." Quoting reasons cited by the U.S. Administration for launching the armed invasion, including the need to protect the lives of Americans in Panama, to guarantee safe passage through the Panama Canal, and punishment for those involved in drug trafficking, the editorial says, "Nevertheless, these are not enough to justify the use of armed forces against other countries."

The editorial continues, "The Bush administration seems to have opted for an armed invasion not so much out of such moral obligations as defending the Panama Canal or restoring democracy to Panama as out of long-term political calculations based on national interests." In the conclusion, the editorial hopes that "the situation in Panama would be brought under control at an early date."

On page 2 of its 22 December issue, SEOUL SINMEUN carries a 1,000-word editorial headlined "The U.S. Invasion of Panama." Calling the U.S. invasion of Panama "an act of pouring cold water on a global reconciliation

atmosphere caused by reforms in the Soviet Union and East Europe," the editorial says that it is hard to welcome as an unavoidable choice, even if the goal behind the armed invasion is justified. The editorial then terms it as "clearly an act of infringing on sovereignty" and says that the United States can never avoid world criticism.

The editorial goes on to note, "In a sense, Noriega created such a situation and President Bush may have had no alternative to the armed invasion under the circumstances. Nevertheless, that can never constitute a justification to launch an armed invasion of other country." Since armed invasion is not a solution, says the editorial, "the U.S. Administration's choice was all the more undesirable," saying that "it could unnecessarily depict Noriega as a hero."

The editorial then says, "We would like to believe that President Bush had some reasons that have made him choose the military action." It goes on, "Gorbachev, who urgently needs U.S. economic assistance, would not be able to relax at the latest U.S. military action as he used to in the past, but this U.S. action would certainly, we are worried, strengthen the position of his domestic conservative opponents."

The editorial also says that "the U.S. military action, it is hoped, will not work against the global reconciliatory atmosphere and the United States, which should help Gorbachev to make his reform a success, will bring the situation under control at an early date."

TONG-A ILBO on 22 December on page 3 carries a 1,000-word editorial under the heading "The U.S. Invasion of Panama." The editorial, terming the U.S. invasion of Panama as "a wrong choice by the Bush administration," says it may have been an inevitable choice given the U.S. troubles caused by drug problems and terrorist acts, but the United States should have given thought to its global implications before carrying out such an armed invasion.

Agreeing with U.S. insistence on removing Noriega who is accused of having been involved in drug trafficking, the editorial cites various wrong steps Noriega has taken, ranging from the killing of an American army officer to a threat of sexual abuse on the killed officer's wife, his installing a figure-head president after an opposition victory in general elections, and his declaration that "Panama was in a state of war with the United States." The editorial says, "Nevertheless, such a logic can never justify the U.S. military action to the international community. Moreover, the armed invasion perpetrated in order to capture a head of a state in another country is nothing but an imperialist idea of the past period."

In concluding, the editorial says, "We fear that the United States plans to withdraw part of its troops that have invaded Panama. What concerns us is: What will the United States do if the situation in Panama becomes prolonged?" The editorial urges the United States to

respect the opinion of the Panamanian people and to reconsider whether its military intervention was the only choice.

U.S. Fighter Plane Crashes; Pilot Unhurt

SK26/2084189 Seoul YONHAP on English 0749 GMT
26 Dec 89

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 26 (YONHAP)—A U.S. Air Force F-16 jet fighter on a training mission crashed Tuesday afternoon near Kunsan Air Base, southwest of Seoul. The pilot bailed out safely and was unhurt, police officials said.

The F-16 Fighting Falcon, assigned to the 8th Tactical Fighter Squadron, crashed in a rice field 210 kilometers southwest of Seoul at 1:10 p.m. and was completely destroyed, the officials said.

The name of the pilot was withheld and the cause of the crash was not immediately known.

No Sends Christmas Message to U.S. Forces Korea

SK23/2074289 Seoul YONHAP on English 0114 GMT
23 Dec 89

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 23 (DANA-YONHAP)—President No Tae-i bailed the U.S. Forces in South Korea in a Christmas message Saturday, saying their "sacrifice, dedication to duty and courage are an inspiration to all those who value freedom everywhere."

No told the 43,000 troops stationed here: "The momentous changes now shaking the world promise an era of great opportunity. Today, America can be justly proud of its contribution to sowing the seeds of liberty in Eastern Europe—seeds that are germinating healthy young shoots strong enough to break through the hard soil of totalitarianism.

"But here on the Korean peninsula, North of the Demilitarized Zone, tyranny continues to hold sway, seemingly unaffected by the winds of change blowing across so many other communist states. It is your duty and ours to ensure that Pyongyang's aggressive designs are resolutely thwarted."

"You thus play a vital role in this period of stupendous transition and you should know that we cherish all the more the bond that brings you here and value your sacrifice in our common cause."

Conditions Needed Before U.S. Troop Withdrawal

SK23/2075089 Seoul YONHAP on English
19 Dec 89 p 2

[Editorial: "Preconditions for the Reduction of U.S. Troops"]

[Text] As the Pentagon began to discuss the possibility of reducing U.S. forces in the Pacific, including U.S. troops in Korea, on 18 December, the "question concerning the

reduction of U.S. troops in Korea" has been raised as a realistic issue in the Pacific region. In connection with the question of U.S. forces in Korea, the Japanese daily ASAHI SHIMBUN has cited a source of the U.S. Pacific Command that a plan to cut U.S. troops by 30,000 by 1993 is under consideration. THE WASHINGTON POST has reported that the United States is likely to adopt a plan to reduce them by 2,000-5,000.

It is well known why the United States plans to reduce U.S. forces in the Pacific and Europe in keeping with the decrease between the United States and the Soviet Union and the cutting of the U.S. defense budget. The United States, which tries to balance its tremendous amount of deficit with loans from Japan, is planning to cut expenditure for its troops stationed abroad.

In view of the situation on the Korean peninsula where the structure of the cold war still exists and in particular, North Korea's threat to communize South Korea has not yet been removed, we should clarify to the United States, an ally of Korea, that there must be a guarantee for preconditions before the reduction of U.S. forces in Korea.

First, the abrupt reduction of U.S. troops in Korea should not disturb the balance in security in East Asia as a whole. Diplomatic and strategic interests in relations between Korea and Japan, between the United States and the Soviet Union, between the United States and China, between China and the Soviet Union, between the United States and Japan, between Japan and the Soviet Union, and between North and South Korea are intricately knotted in East Asia. These international relations are in danger of being disrupted by wrong intent or judgment by any of the sides.

In particular, North Korea's misjudgment of the situation can destroy the trend of detente being created by the United States, the Soviet Union, and China. Of course, North-South dialogue, which has been proceeding in a careful way thanks to advice from neighboring countries, would be frustrated.

From this point of view, we think that the United States is responsible for guaranteeing a mechanism for peace on the Korean peninsula before it cuts its forces in Korea. Both North and South Korea should also make efforts to build up mutual trust without exercising the force of arms in keeping with new international circumstances in the nineties. For the United States together with the Soviet Union and China to continue to exercise diplomatic influence on North Korea to sign an accord on safety measures of atomic energy with the International Atomic Energy Agency would be among the mechanisms of peace. Also, persuading North Korea to open its door and come out to the international community will serve as another.

Second, the United States should fully consult with Korea, its ally, about the reduction of its troops while it is still in the process of being studied. Korea and the

United States have cooperated with each other in security and economic fields. Should the United States unilaterally reduce its troops without any consultation with Korea beforehand, the foundation of close alliance which the two countries have built up for a long time would be undermined.

Third, what we want to urge our politicians to do in connection with the plan to cut U.S. troops in Korea is to deal with this question in a suprapartisan manner, transcending differences in the party interests. We remember that last year, some politicians irresponsibly embroiled themselves with an extreme demand for the unconditional withdrawal of U.S. troops. It is time that we wisely dealt with the issue concerning the reduction of U.S. forces, a realistic problem.

No Satisfactory Results in North-South Talks

SK2412011989 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD
in English 24 Dec 89 p 2

[Following is the first in a two-part article reviewing the outcome of South-North Korean dialogues this year from the "Politics 1989 in Review" column by staff reporter Kim Hyo-won]

(Text) South and North Koreans again failed this year to achieve a breakthrough in inter-Korean relations despite more channels for formal dialogue and chances for more frequent contacts.

Four different talks were under way but none of them brought about an end to the confrontation between the two sides.

Rather, during many of the contacts, Southern and Northern delegates spent most of the time arguing over the issues which were not related to the talks like the Team Spirit Korea-U.S. joint military exercise and the secret visits to Pyongyang by the Rev. Mun Il-hwan and Yim Su-kyong.

The inconsistent attitudes of both sides in different meetings also revealed that any real progress in inter-Korean dialogues is impossible unless they come to the conference table emerging from their immediate causes.

The four inter-Korean talks which occurred this year are the preliminary contacts for inter-parliamentary talks, the preparatory contacts for the South-North premiers' conference, the working-level Red Cross contacts to pave the way for reunion of separated families and the sports talks for the formation of a unified athletic delegation to the 1990 Beijing Asian Games.

All of these talks have their own value. But of these, the preparatory contacts for realizing the prime ministers' conference between the south and the north will be recorded as an event which provided a turning point in inter-Korean relations for several reasons.

The South-North premiers' conference which the working-level officials have tried to arrange is the first to deal with political and military issues between the two Koreas.

It was a big forward step in inter-Korean dialogues when the conflicting views on the dialogues between the two Koreas so far are taken into account. The Southern side has long advocated the precedence of exchanges in nonpolitical fields before any negotiations on political and military issues, while the Northern side has adopted political and military approaches to the issues of unification and dialogues.

The Southern and Northern sides, after exchanging several letters in 1988, met at Panmunjom Feb. 8 this year for the first time to arrange the prime ministers' talks.

Seoul proposed each delegation for a full-scale conference be composed of seven members, including a chief-of-staff-level military officer, with the prime minister as chief delegate.

It also suggested that the conference be named "South-North high-level officials' meeting" or "South-North prime ministers' meeting."

The Southern side presented six items as the agenda topics of the proposed high-level officials' meeting—those for bringing an end to mutual slander and defamation, fostering mutual respect and non-interference, carrying out multipronged exchanges and cooperation, promoting confidence-building measures in the military area, and holding a South-North summit and other issues raised by the two sides.

The Pyongyang side, however, offered to call the main conference "South-North high-level political and military talks." It also suggested a single agenda—"the matters on liquidating the condition of political and military confrontation between the North and the South."

Rather than narrowing the difference in their proposals, however, the two sides fiercely collided over issues not related to the meeting during the first contacts as the Northern side demanded an immediate halt to the Team Spirit military exercise as a precondition for starting the premiers' talks.

The North finally suspended the third contacts, scheduled for April 12, urging the release of the Rev. Mun who was under arrest for his clandestine visit to Pyongyang.

The third contacts were realized last Oct. 12, where the two sides only attacked each other over political and other issues beyond their agenda. While the north continued to demand the release of the Rev. Mun and Yim, a Seoul card who secretly visited Pyongyang to attend the world youth festival, the South urged the North to stop political maneuvering against Seoul and to give up its old strategy to communize the South.

The North's hard stance, however, made a sudden shift during the fifth contacts Dec. 20. It made unprecedented concessions to resolve most unsettled issues like the role of the premiers' conference and its agenda. The two sides agreed to call the main meeting "the South-North high-level conference."

They also decided that each delegation to the main conference will have seven officials including the prime minister, ministerial and vice ministerial level officials and a chief-of-staff level military officer.

Still unresolved is the discussion on the agenda. Whereas the South claims that they be "matters for multi-pronged exchanges and relieving political and military confrontations between the south and the north," the North suggests that they be "about liquidating political and military confrontations between the North and the South and making diversified exchanges."

What caused the abrupt change in the North's attitude is still unclear but several references are possible.

Some officials in Seoul say that Pyongyang officials might want to avoid public criticism for the consistency they had shown during a series of working-level Red Cross contacts for discussing an exchange of home visitors and art troupes in November and December by showing a reconciliatory attitude.

More fundamentally, the changes also indicate some aspects of the North's strategy on inter-Korean dialogues, they say.

The meeting agrees with the north's political and military approaches toward the issue of unification and inter-Korean dialogue.

At the same time, the officials say, the Pyongyang regime recognizes that debate is heating up among some politicians, scholars and journalists in the South on the issue of arms control and reduction of U.S. troops on the Korean Peninsula in line with the ongoing mood of detente in the world.

The South-North high-level conference is expected to provide chances to focus public attention in the South on the military issues, which the North might judge are surely helpful to its traditional strategy.

These causes might have driven North Korea to accept concessions on minor issues, they say.

The two sides will meet next month to resolve the only unresolved issue—the agenda. When they reach an agreement on it during the meeting, the main conference is likely to follow soon according to their earlier agreement that the first main conference be held in Seoul a month after they complete the preliminary contacts.

The same rule—take only the sweet things and spit out the others—seemed to dictate the North Koreans' attitude during the inter-Korean sports meetings for formation of a joint athletic delegation to the Beijing Asian Games.

Daily Urges Fruiful North-South Sports Talks

SK 26/1084789 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD
in English 26 Dec 89 p 8

[Editorial: "Inter-Korea Sports Talks"]

[Text] The inter-Korea sports talks to discuss the possibility of fielding a joint team for the 1990 Asian Games in Beijing have shown some signs of breakthrough. The sixth round of talks produced tangible results after months of sluggish and often frustrating progress. The North accepted many of the South's proposals by agreeing to a single team leader, installation of a joint secretariat and other thorny issues which had troubled the first formation of a joint South-North sports delegation to an international event.

The Seoul delegates to the Panmunjom talks deserve to be credited for hammering out these accords by patiently keeping the North Koreans at the conference table to find a way out of the seemingly hopeless deadlock. The dramatic progress in the sports talks last Friday notwithstanding, it is still too early to be optimistic or pessimistic about the future of the parley, given the fact that North Korea has broken off previous inter-Korea sports talks in the eleventh-hour by making preposterous and unrealistic demands.

But we still expect much from the current sports talks, as they will, aside from realizing a single Korean team, surely stimulate dialogue between the divided halves, reduce tension, promote peaceful cooperation, and thus eventually lead to territorial unification. After all, the sports parley is taking place at a time when all other inter-Korea channels of dialogue—Red Cross, economic and parliamentary level talks and the top leaders' meeting—remain either in rapture or show little progress due to Pyongyang's unabated adherence to its absurd demands.

The remaining issue in the current sports talks is the problem of drawing up a separate accord to guarantee the implementation of the agreements reached thus far, as proposed by the South. The Seoul delegation has reasons to seek such an accord, as the North changed, for example, their stand on the number of leaders for the joint team four times, deepening the South's doubts about Pyongyang's sincerity.

It is time not for hollow rhetoric but for joining hands to achieve full-fledged inter-Korea relations and to realize fruitful exchanges in the spirit of reconciliation. This leads us to become ever more anxious to see a combined team go to the Beijing Asian and all other international events, for that matter, to demonstrate the athletic prowess of the Korean people before a global audience.

Pyongyang must share this desire and come to the conference table next year with a more sincere and realistic approach. This precious opportunity must not be lost to gimmicks or ulterior motives.

Statistics on Approval of Contact With North

SK 2512064489 Seoul YONHAP in English on 18 GMT
25 Dec 89

(Text) Seoul, Dec. 25 (DANA-YONHAP)—The South Korean Government has approved nearly half of the applications to contact North Korea submitted since it announced guidelines for inter-Korean exchanges and cooperation in June 1988, the National Unification Ministry said Monday.

Out of the 37 applications, 18 were approved and 12 denied. The remaining seven are under deliberation.

Recently approved were a request by a South Korean clergymen in Japan to visit Pyongyang "for religious purposes" and one by a theater group to invite North Korean actors.

Among those disallowed was an application by journalists and religious groups to attend the Pyongyang International Youth Festival in July.

The guidelines, based on a declaration in which North Korea is recognized as a *de facto* nation, are intended to ensure that every South-North Korean contact takes place "under the government's approval."

Northern Policy May Help Gain UN Membership

SK 1912025089 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD
in English 19 Dec 89 pp 2, 5

["Reviewing 1989 Politics" column by staff reporter Kim Hee-won]

(Text) The negotiations with the Polish made a breakthrough when Assistant Foreign Minister Hong Sung-yong, who heads the ministry's task force for northern diplomacy, visited Warsaw May 31, leading a delegation composed of businessmen and government officials.

A Polish delegation led by Andrzej Majkowksi, deputy director of the department for Asia-African affairs of the Foreign Ministry, came to Seoul in mid-September and initialed a protocol for establishment of diplomatic ties between Korea and Poland.

This active role of Korean diplomats in negotiations with the Polish indicated the northern diplomacy, which had been mainly in charge of secret envoys, got on the right track, a Foreign Ministry official commented.

The announcement on the exchange of consular departments with the Soviet Union soon followed.

The negotiations with the Soviet Union, however, were not as smooth as those with the previous two countries because of its status as a superpower.

When Moscow officials visited Seoul last December to discuss an exchange of trade offices, they suggested that the two governments grant consular functions to the

offices for the convenience of their businessmen who had to get visas in third countries.

The Seoul side rejected the offer, saying that it cannot delegate to a private organization or to an individual the consular function which is to be exercised by the governments only.

During negotiations until June, the two sides narrowed the gap to some extent. Korean officials offered three conditions: 1) The negotiations should be held between the two governments, 2) the consular works should be performed by Foreign Ministry officials, and 3) the consular officers should be guaranteed privileges and immunities provided by the Geneva Convention on Consular Relations.

A high-ranking official of the Korean Foreign Ministry visited Moscow during the Korea Week in July and reached an agreement that the two sides set up organizations for consular works inside the trade offices but that they operate the organizations separately from the trade offices.

After a series of contacts in Tokyo and Singapore, the two sides finally concluded the negotiations.

The consular departments of the two countries, which will come into being next month as a result of the tug of war between the two sides for almost a year, will fall short of the functions of ordinary consulates.

The most important difference is that they are not allowed to hoist the national flags of the countries they represent outside their office buildings.

This limitation, stemming from the Soviet consideration not to hurt its relations with North Korea, is the main reason why Seoul officials call the new relations with the Soviet Union "a *de facto* consular relationship" instead of a consular one.

The limitation, however, does not diminish the importance of the new relationship with the Communist superpower. It was the first formal recognition of South Korea by the Soviet Union. It is also expected to serve for connecting the two countries which had no contacts until recently with diplomatic relations in the near future.

Korean officials are showing their desire to advance the day by leaked a plan to assign an ambassadorial-level diplomat as the head of its consular department in Moscow.

They say the decision also reflects the importance placed by the Seoul government on the relations with the Soviet Union.

The softened Soviet attitude is also expected to positively affect the Korean efforts to improve relations with another Communist power, China. Although economic exchanges between China and Korea have been much more active than those between Korea and the Soviet Union, China has remained passive in opening formal ties with Seoul for consideration of its ties with North Korea.

Many are optimistic about the prospects for the northern diplomacy as long as it rides on the current detente mood sweeping the world.

The success of the policy is also closely related to another decades-old issue in Korean diplomacy—South Korea's admission to the United Nations.

The government has attempted to enter the organization several times before but failed because of the objection from the Soviet Union and China, both with veto rights as standing members of the U.N. Security Council.

Seoul officials recently said they would apply for membership at "the right time," by which they apparently meant when the Soviet Union and China soften their attitudes.

The time also coincides with when the two countries improve relations with Seoul.

The officials have continuously claimed that the new relations with North Korea's allies would help induce Pyongyang to open its door and ring it out of its international isolation and therefore, contribute to peace on the Korean Peninsula and eventually, peaceful unification.

But several signals from North Korea have also aroused fears that the relations may only drive Pyongyang further into a corner and therefore, make it more isolated.

When Seoul set up relations with Budapest, Pyongyang recalled its ambassador, Kim Pyong-il, and downgraded the representation of its embassy in Budapest to a chargé d'affaires.

Pyongyang also replaced its ambassador to Poland, Pak Sang-um, when Seoul and Warsaw announced the opening of ties.

Pyongyang officials were reported to be greatly upset when the Soviet Union notified them of its decision to exchange consular officials with Seoul several days before the formal announcement.

On the issue of the U.N. admission, they are severely attacking the South, claiming that Seoul attempts to perpetuate the division of the nation by pursuing entry by itself.

This series of events strongly indicates that confrontation with Pyongyang is inevitable at least until when it totally gives up ties with its traditional allies, says an analyst.

The leadership of North Korea is also feared to become more morally self-righteous as it feels more isolated from the international community, he says.

Theatrical Company To Contact Northern Artists

SK2112014489 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD
in English 21 Dec 89 p 2

[Text] The government yesterday allowed Chong Chin-su, representative of the Minjung Theatrical Co., to contact three theater artists of North Korea to invite them to Seoul early next year.

A National Unification Board official said Chong plans to contact the North Koreans—Yi Tan who leads the North Korean Drama Production Workers Union (KDPWU) and Yu Hwa-yong and Yi Yong, both union officials—through Japanese theater artists to let them watch the company's drama "Korean."

Japanese Say DPRK Will Adhere to Socialism

SK2712091689 Seoul TONG-A ILBO
in Korean 27 Dec 89 p 2

[Report by Tokyo correspondent Ho Tae-hung]

[Text] A group of Japanese Diet members who recently visited North Korea said that North Korea made it clear that it would adhere to its independent socialist lines based upon the "chaebol idea" despite reforms and opening up in various East European countries.

Choi Kuno, Diet member of the Liberal Democratic Party and chairman of the Dietmen's League for the Promotion of Japan-North Korea Friendship, and other Diet men who returned after visiting North Korea from 19 December, met Japanese reporters on 26 December in Beijing, where they stopped on their way home. In the press conference, they said that Kim Yong-sun, member of the Workers Party of Korea (WPK) Central Committee and director of the WPK International Department, and other ranking officials expressed this opinion.

Chairman Kuno said that Kim and other people insisted that the reforms and opening up and moves for democratization in Eastern Europe were caused by bureaucratism there and that they made it clear that "no bureaucratism appears in North Korea because it is a peculiar socialist society based upon the chaebol idea" and that "North Korea will walk on the socialist road without looking at changes in various East European countries."

Economic Assistance To Be Extended to East Bloc

SK2312024189 Seoul YONHAP in English 0231 GMT
23 Dec 89

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 23 (YONHAP)—South Korea is pushing forward with its multilateral efforts to improve relations with East European countries by offering them economic assistance, a source at the Economic Planning Board said Saturday.

The government has decided to make loans from the Economic Development Cooperation Fund (EDCF) available to all East-Bloc nations to promote economic cooperation, he said. To do this, the government will revise the regulations governing EDCF disbursements, which are currently limited to developing countries in the Western world.

Korea created the EDCF with 150 billion won, an equivalent of 220 million U.S. dollars, in 1987 to strengthen economic cooperation with developing nations. Four countries have so far been selected to receive the soft loans—Indonesia (8.9 billion won), Nigeria (8.1 billion won), Peru (7.1 billion won) and Fiji (4.2 billion won).

Samsung Buys Stake in Chinese Television Firm

SK1912030489 Seoul YONHAP in English 0249 GMT
19 Dec 89

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 19 (YONHAP)—Samsung Co. of South Korea bought a 19 percent stake in the Chinese TV maker Huai Electronics Co. for 1.14 million U.S. dollars on Monday. Samsung will also supply the color TV production facility in the Shenzhen Special Economic Zone near Hong Kong with managerial and technological know-how, the company said Tuesday.

The firm will send six officials to China next month in the first step of an agreement to provide Huai with technical support for 20 years, a Samsung official said. He said Samsung will export Huai-made television receivers bearing the Samsung brand name through its worldwide distribution network on an original equipment manufacturing basis.

It is the first time Samsung, Korea's largest conglomerate in terms of both sales and profits, has invested in a Chinese firm. Huai, a leading TV maker in China, was set up in 1984 and turns out 400,000 color television sets annually.

Australia, New Zealand Demand Import Timetable

SK2312014589 Seoul YONHAP in English 0123 GMT
23 Dec 89

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 23 (YONHAP)—New Zealand and Australia have demanded that South Korea announce a timetable for liberalizing beef imports, an Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Ministry official said Saturday.

Talks on beef imports took place with New Zealand on Dec. 18-19 in Wellington and Australia on Dec. 21-22 in Canberra.

Quoting from a report by the negotiation team, the official said Korea contended in the talks that the quota system must be retained for the time being to protect its livestock industry. Australia and New Zealand insisted that Korea should draw up a timetable by Feb. 7 in compliance with a recommendation by the General Agreement of Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

Australia, however, agreed to discuss in detail the proposal to form a joint investigation team to determine whether it is possible for Korea to comply with the GATT recommendation.

Overseas Construction Orders Up 25 Percent

SK2312040489 Seoul YONHAP in English 0341 GMT
23 Dec 89

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 23 (YONHAP)—Overseas construction orders rose 25 percent to 1.916 billion U.S. dollars this year from 1.602 billion dollars last year, the first increase since 1981, an official of the Construction Ministry said Saturday. [23 Dec]

South Korean construction companies won 1.302 billion dollars worth of contracts in the Middle East and Asia, up 4.2 percent over last year helped by post-war reconstruction booms in Iran and Iraq and Libya's "great man-made river" project, the official said.

Orders from Southeast Asia hit 461 million dollars, up 92 percent, for projects in Japan, Taiwan and Malaysia. Next year's figure will top 7 billion dollars because of a single 5.3 billion-dollar contract for the second phase of the Libyan river project, he said.

Overseas Investment Increases by 134 Percent

SK2312024889 Seoul YONHAP in English 0116 GMT
23 Dec 89

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 23 (YONHAP)—Overseas investment by private South Korean firms soared 134 percent in the first 11 months of the year over the like period in 1988, a Finance Ministry official said Thursday.

As of November, there had been 220 investments, a 49.6 percent rise over 147 last year, worth 424.6 million U.S. dollars, up 134 percent over 182 million dollars, the official said. Southeast Asia attracted the most investments (107) while North America took the most money (211.4 million dollars). Manufacturers both made the most investments (123) and put in the most money (198.1 million dollars), he added.

RDP, JSP Issue 10-Point Joint Press Release

SK2312011589 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES
in English 23 Dec 89 p 2

[Text] The Reunification Democratic Party (RDP) and the visiting delegation of the Japan Socialist Party (JSP) yesterday agreed to combine efforts to improve the legal status of Korean residents in Japan.

Their accord was expressed in a 10-point joint press release after a meeting between representatives of the two opposition parties of the neighboring countries at RDP headquarters.

They said, "Based on the deep recognition that the Korea-Japan basic treaty has existed for more than 20 years, both sides agreed to develop friendly relations between the two nations."

They also concurred to make joint efforts to ensure better legal treatment for Korean residents in Japan and to discuss the matter next April in a meeting between the two parties.

According to the press release, both sides will combine efforts to have repatriated Korean residents in Sakhalin island, which belongs to the Soviet Union, and will help promote economic cooperation between the two nations in recognition that Japanese advanced technology should be actively transferred to Korea.

The joint press release was signed by Kim Su-han, chairman of the ad hoc committee for the JSP delegation

visit, and Issei Inoue, director for international affairs of the Japanese largest opposition party.

During the conference, the RDP urged the JSP delegation to correct its policy of having exchanges with only North Korea, which runs counter to the international trend, and help Pyongyang to throw off its dogmatic dictatorship.

Meanwhile, Pak Chun-kyu, chairman of the ruling Democratic Justice Party, turned down the JSP delegation's suggestion of a courtesy call on him yesterday.

Pak reportedly demand the JSP give an explanation of its pre-modern platform recognizing only North Korea as the sole legitimate nation on the Korean peninsula.

Cho Sun Speaks to Business Leaders on Economy

SK2312055889 Seoul YONHAP in English 0538 GMT
23 Dec 89

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 23 (YONHAP)—Deputy Prime Minister Cho Sun ruled out drastic measures to boost the economy such as lowering interest rates and devaluing the South Korean won Saturday.

Such short-term measures would cause instant inflation and a vicious cycle of pay demands and price rises, igniting social unrest and dragging the economy down to "the level of a Latin American nation," Cho, who is also minister of economic planning, told business leaders. Lowering interest rates and depreciating the Korean currency against the U.S. dollar are persistent demands of the business community.

There is no instant remedy for Korea's economic crisis, Cho said in a gathering with entrepreneurs sponsored by the Korea Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The nation's top economic planner said it is of the utmost urgency to generate new impetus for growth by improving the economy's structure.

The only way to tackle the current plight is to secure social stability, which will lead to industrial peace, and to transfer economic resources from such non-productive fields as service and leisure to productive ones, he said.

Cho said the priority of the government's economic policies in 1990 will be to consolidate stability because political burdens will be placed on the economy in the next couple of years by a series of elections.

No Faces Difficulty Over Chon's Testimony Delay

SK231204789 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD
in English 23 Dec 89 p 2

[News Analysis by staff reporter Sim Yong-su]

[Text] Ex-President Chon Tu-hwan's reluctance to testify against President No Tae-ki's avowed plan to put to rest by any means all controversy over Chon's Fifth Republic irregularities before the end of the year.

Chon, staying at a remote Buddhist temple for over a year in self-imposed exile, appears to have been trying to avoid making parliamentary testimony by providing various excuses—a major change of stance.

The ex-President's aides, apparently echoing his view, recently said that it is totally impossible for him to testify this year because it will take weeks to prepare for the testimony.

They, in another unexpected move, took issue with the disagreement among political parties over the method lawmakers will use for additional questions during his testimony.

But political observers here say these are excuses made either to avoid making the testimony or to delay it.

They noted that Chon as recently as a month ago had expressed his willingness to take the witness stand without any pre-conditions.

His about-face, the observers said, was prompted by the surprising agreement between No and three opposition leaders last Friday on the liquidation of the Fifth Republic questions, including his testimony.

At the agreement, three opposition leaders—Kim Tae-chung, Kim Yong-sam and Kim Chong-pil—said that they will no longer delve into the issue if No makes Chon testify on his missile and Chon's two former associates resign.

Chon's former associates, ruling party lawmaker Chong Ho-yong and president of the state-run Korea National Housing Corporation, Yi Hui-sung are linked to the infamous Kwangju incident.

Chon angrily reacted to the agreement which he reportedly said was made "one-sidedly by No without prior consultations with him" and since has been retreating from his previous stance to testify without conditions. The observers attributed Chon's change of mind to his grudge against No which they said was created by "No's failure to protect Chon and his relatives" since his stepdown nearly two years ago.

Chon, they said, has bitter feelings for No particularly for letting him continue his life in exile and his relatives be prosecuted (including Chon's three brothers).

The ex-President may be seeking revenge by delaying his testimony. If Chon's testimony is not realized this year as No promised opposition parties, it would, Chon may believe, deal a major blow to No's prestige.

Irritated by Chon's wavering, No has talked with Chon over the telephone three times since Dec. 8 and asked for his cooperation in putting an end to the Fifth Republic questions by the end of 1989. But he has had little success.

Chon's testimony is a key condition of the opposition for agreeing to end the controversy with the resignation of Chong and Yi, who were top Army generals at the time of the Kwangju incident. Reflecting on their strained relationship, Chon reportedly told No during a telephone conversation, "Testimony is totally my business. Don't try to interfere," in an angry tone.

It was for the first time that No and Chon talked since the latter had gone into the Paekdam Temple on Mt. Sorak to atone for his past.

Other observers said that Chon might not have thought of taking the witness stand from the beginning, which he still regards as "an act unbecoming a former head of state."

Chon might have, they said, showed his willingness to testify only in the belief that No would never let him undergo such a humiliating act or that the four political parties would never agree to the terms of his testimony—he might have thought that would provide an apt excuse not to testify.

Chon and his family members, in fact, they said, have opposed parliamentary testimony from the beginning, saying that to take the witness stand would stain his family's name.

In another sign of uncomfortable relations between No and Chon, the latter has flatly refused to consult with No on the contents of his testimony.

Chon reportedly said that if he had to testify, he will tell the entire truth about his 7-year rule—to the frustration of No.

When No called Chon again on the night of Dec. 19 to ask for the latter's cooperation in connection with the testimony, Chon angrily ended the call after saying, "The human bond between you and me has already been cut." No is deeply concerned that Chon might make a testimony which could embarrass him and his party.

No planned to send his top aides as special emissaries to the Parkdam Temple to appease Chon on several occasions since his meeting last Friday with the three opposition Kims. But the plan was aborted after Chon rejected their visit.

Chon's anger at No deepened since the rumor circulated that No plans to send Chon on a long overseas trip after he testifies at the National Assembly, against Chon's wish to return to his Yonhui-tong home in Seoul and lead a "normal" life.

As the Chon side strongly objects to testifying this year, the ruling party is seriously considering postponing the testimony until next year.

A high ruling party official said yesterday that his party will soon negotiate with the opposition on the question of delaying Chon's testimony to 1990.

But two main opposition parties—Kim Tae-chung's Party for Peace Democracy and Kim Yong-sam's Reunification Democratic Party—ruled out the possibility of an agreement with the ruling party on the matter.

Public Polls on Reaction to Four-Party Talks

SK1912065189 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean
18 Dec 89 p 1

[Text] When asked about the ways to settle the issues of the Fifth Republic legacies agreed upon by the heads of the four political parties at the 15 December Chongwadae talks, 55.9 percent of the male and female adults of this country that responded said "satisfied," 31.4 percent of them said "dissatisfied," and 12.8 percent remained "undecided." This shows that about half of the people accepted the aforesaid ways of settling the Fifth

Republic legacies as satisfactory, and about a third of them thought them unacceptable. The number of people who were "satisfied" was greater among an older age group, those in the Yongsan [North and South Kyongsang Provincial areas] area, and among those engaged in agriculture, forestry, and fishery, as well as among those in the management and professional jobs. The number of people who were "dissatisfied" was greater among the younger age groups, those in the Kangwon area and the Honam [North and South Cholla Provincial areas] area, and among students.

These results were obtained from a telephone opinion poll conducted by TONG-A ILBO's opinion survey department among 1,600 male and female participants of 20 years of age or older across the country, excluding Cheju Province, on the evening of 16 December, the day after the four party heads' Chongwadae talks. (The Seoul Marketing Survey Company offered its services for this opinion survey).

As to former President Chon Tu-hwan's National Assembly testimony, which is a key part of the agreement reached by the four party heads, and which is to be carried only once and on tape, 47.3 percent expressed satisfaction, 47.6 percent dissatisfaction, and 5.1 percent were undecided; thus, satisfaction and dissatisfaction were nearly equally divided. As for the issue of making Mr. Chong Ho-yong and Mr. Yi Hui-song resign from public office, which task has been entrusted to President No, 42.6 percent expressed satisfaction, 47.8 percent dissatisfaction, and 9.6 percent undecidedness; thus, nearly half of those participating in the poll showed dissatisfaction. As for the issue of Mr. Yi Won-cho, against whom the National Assembly special committee is to file an accusation, 49.3 percent, which is nearly half of the participants, expressed satisfaction, while 28.9 percent expressed dissatisfaction, and 21.8 percent undecidedness.

As for the settlement of the Kwangju issue, 78.4 percent expressed satisfaction and 18.5 percent dissatisfaction, thus showing that about 80 percent of adults affirmatively accepted the way to settle the Kwangju issue. Of those who expressed satisfaction on the way to settle the Kwangju issue, the greatest number of people lived in Kwangju and North and South Cholla Provinces (82.9 percent), followed by those living in Inchon and Kyongsu area (82.2 percent), Kangwon area (82.1 percent), Taegu and North and South Chungchong area (77.4 percent), Seoul (77.3 percent), Taegu and North Kyongsang Province (76.1 percent), and the lowest percentage seen in Pusan and South Kyongsan area (74.4 percent).

As for the promise by the four party heads that "they will do their best to solve the problems concerning the public livelihood and to bring forth political stability," only 19.2 percent of the participants said, "I am optimistic," 58.9 percent said "Let's wait and see," and 21.1 percent "I doubt it." This means that 80 percent of the adults hold a pessimistic or doubtful view of the prospect of

settling the problem concerning the public livelihood. As for the prospect of political stability, only 23.8 percent said, "It will be stabilized," 47.1 percent said, "Let's wait and see," and 27.6 percent said, "Unrest will continue," thus showing that about 70 percent of the people do not expect much of the political stability of the country.

In the poll, the participants were also asked whether their families' economic conditions were better or worse compared with last year. Only 17.2 percent said "better off," 24.4 percent "worse off," and 57.9 percent "little change." Thus, more participants said that they were worse than better off.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Envoy in Malaysia Supports New Romanian State

BK2612151089 Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in Malay 1430 GMT 26 Dec 89

[Excerpt] The Romanian Embassy in Kuala Lumpur has voiced its support for the Romanian National Salvation Front, which has toppled the government of former president Nicolae Ceausescu.

Valeriu Georgescu and [name indistinct], who are ambassador and chargé d'affaires at the Romanian Embassy, said this in a statement addressed to the National Salvation Front. A copy of the statement was given to BERNAMA NEWS AGENCY.

In support of the front, they firmly stated that they would do their best to help return the situation in Romania to normalcy and ensure democracy, freedom, and dignity for the people. They described the victory of the Romanian Army-backed front as a new chapter in Romania's political and economic life. [passage omitted]

VOMD Broadcasts Chin Peng Speech at Ceremony

BK2412083889 (Clandestine) Voice of Malaya Democracy in Malay 0400 GMT 24 Dec 89

[Speech by Chin Peng, general secretary of the Communist Party of Malaya, at a 2 December ceremony in Hat Yai to sign peace agreements—read by announcer]

[Text] Your Excellency General Chawalit Yongchayut [commander in chief of the Royal Thai Army], Your Honor Datuk Wan Sulek bin Wan Abdul Rahman [secretary general of the Malaysian Ministry of Home Affairs], honorable members of the Royal Thai Government delegation, honorable members of the Malaysian Government delegation, honorable ladies and gentlemen:

The delegations of the Royal Thai Government, the Malaysian Government, and the Communist Party of Malaya have held a series of peace talks and achieved successful results, as proven by the signing of two peace agreements a moment ago. We are happy about the results of the talks.

The agreements just signed are in line with our party's policy of realizing peace. In addition, they are in line with the current trends of history, in which people worldwide are fighting for peace and democracy, as well as in the interests of the peoples of our two countries—Malaysia and Thailand.

We regard the two agreements ending the 41-year-old armed activities through peace talks as an honorable settlement. Undoubtedly, the fair and reasonable settlement for all sides concerned was achieved in a spirit of mutual understanding and compromise.

We are convinced that the signing of the agreements will become a new chapter in our country's history and will make an important contribution to prosperity and stability in Malaysia and the Thai-Malaysian border region.

As Malaysian citizens, we pledge loyalty to his majesty, the yang di-pertuan agong [paramount ruler], and to the country.

As a signatory, we pledge to implement the agreements in the best possible manner. We will dissolve armed units and destroy our weapons as proof of our sincerity to end the armed struggle.

Finally, let me, on behalf of the Communist Party of Malaya delegation, convey the deepest thanks to the Royal Thai Government for extending valuable assistance to the tripartite peace talks, in addition to serving as a witness to the peace agreement between the Malaysian Government and the Communist Party of Malaya and hosting the historic signing ceremony. I would also like to convey special respects to General Chawalit Yongchayut for his foresightedness, and Major General Kitti Rattanachaya [commander of Thailand's Fourth Army Region] for his efforts to make the peace talks a success.

Singapore

Reasoning Behind U.S. Attack on Panama Examined

BK2212142589 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 22 Dec 89 p 34

[Editorial: "Might Cannot Be Right"]

[Text] When the most powerful nation on earth stages a large-scale military attack to rid a neighboring country of its ruler, it had better furnish sound reasons. Otherwise, the world's small nations cannot but be left with the frightening conclusion that ultimately, whatever the rules of the international conduct may stipulate, might is right. Thus, the United States having sent 20,000 troops to topple the Panamanian government of General Manuel Antonio Noriega, must give a better explanation than that put forth by President George Bush in his speech to the American people justifying the attack. He gave four reasons: defending democracy, fighting the drug problem, defending the integrity of the Panama Canal treaty and protecting American lives. To this can be added a fifth which he did not give but which most Americans would happily applaud: kicking out a thug of a ruler whose legitimacy has been in grave doubt anyway. Sadly, none of these stands up to rigorous scrutiny, certainly not the last one because however gratified one might be to see a brutal dictator taken down, it cannot justify invasion of a sovereign country. Compromise on this fundamental principle, and all under heaven will be thrown into chaos by nations playing vigilantes.

Nor can the U.S. use defense of democracy as a reason. If it were allowed to do so, then, sooner or later, it must take action against at least half the world. It is no

business of any country to dictate to another what form of government it must have, much less use military might to enforce it. As for combatting the drug problem, even if the Noriega regime was involved in the drug trade, this alone cannot justify the U.S. action. There are other sanctions available—trade embargo, blocking all forms of international aid, to name two. But resort to force not only sets a dangerous precedent but also creates bigger problems than the one it was meant to solve. Mr. Bush's third reason—protecting the Panama Canal—does not hold much water either. The U.S. has not produced any evidence to show that the canal was in danger or the treaty with Panama was being violated.

The only ground that comes close to being acceptable is protection of American lives. Here, the critical question is whether the 35,000 Americans in Panama were in such danger to warrant the US attack. The US will doubtless point to what General Noriega said last Friday about Panama being in a state of war with America, and to the killing of a U.S. serviceman on Saturday [16 December]. It needs to make up a more convincing case. Menacing words by a brutish military强man carried away by his own speech-making—and these can be expected of most tin-pot dictators in broken-back countries—cannot amount to an actual declaration of war. There must be something more ominous—getting soldiers into combat readiness, positioning heavy arms, and other equally threatening moves. Of course, it must have been difficult for President Bush to come across to his public as doing precious little when terrorists and foreign despots alike take liberties with American lives. And yes, the threat to American lives was this time greater than was the case six years ago in Grenada, which the US also invaded. But however great the temptation not to take any chances, the U.S. as the nation the world looks to for setting standards in international behaviour, cannot afford to be seen as forsaking high principle for the sake of expediency. Having taken an equivocal stand against Vietnam for its invasion of Cambodia, we can scarcely shrug from registering our regret over the U.S. incursion into Panama. What the U.S. needs to do now to salvage its reputation is to help restore peace and order to the country quickly, pull out and let Panamanians decide their own future by free ballot.

PAP Urges Vigilance Against CPM Activities

8K2212110589 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES
in English 22 Dec 89 p 27

[Text] Singapore and Malaysia should stay vigilant against the Communist Party of Malaya's [CPM] activities despite the peace pact signed earlier this month, a political action group said here yesterday.

The People's Action Party's [PAP] North Action Group said in a statement signed by the chairman David Tong that the CPM continued to pose a threat with its Marxist-Leninist ideology.

The group, comprising PAP activists from 12 constituencies, congratulated the Malaysian government for successfully negotiating the end of the communist insurgency.

Early this month, the Malaysian and Thai authorities signed separate agreements with the CPM in Hat Yai, Thailand, to end its 41-year old armed struggle.

But the PAP group said that the CPM still harboured hopes of a communist Malaya and Singapore.

The laying down of arms only meant that the CPM would now turn to other ways to "undermine, subvert, infiltrate and eventually control" the two countries.

It would do this by infiltrating and subverting legal organizations to participate in parliamentary democracy, the group added.

The group called on Singaporeans and Malaysians to be aware of the continued threat of the CPM and communism, and to be vigilant against their tactics.

Cambodia

Che Sim Receives USSR Ambassador Khamidulin

8K2212110589 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1057 GMT
27 Dec 89

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK December 27—Chea Sim, Politburo member of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea Central Committee and chairman of the National Assembly and National Council of the United Front for Construction and Defence of the Kampuchean Fatherland, received yesterday R. Khamidulin, Soviet ambassador to Cambodia.

Khamidulin informed Chairman Chea Sim of the result of the second national congress of the Soviet people's deputies recently held in Moscow which, he said, was an important turning point of the Soviet Union. The process of perestroika which has raised considerably the prestige of the Soviet Union on the international arena [as received].

He also informed the Cambodian leader of the ongoing plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and reaffirmed the firm stance of his government on the Cambodia issue.

For his part, Chairman Chea Sim highly valued those political events in the Soviet Union and expressed strong support for the perestroika policy in the Soviet Union.

The Cambodian leader thanked the Soviet Union for its assistance to the Cambodian people's national construction and defence and its efforts in the search for a political solution to the Cambodian problem.

He said he wished the ongoing plenum of the CPSU Central Committee success.

Japanese 'Peace Boat' Visits Kompong Som

BK1812130189 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1108 GMT 18 Dec 89

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK Dec. 18—"Although Japan and the State of Cambodia have not yet established official diplomatic relations, the peoples of the two countries have always shown their sympathy to each other and their mutual understanding. The Japanese people want to see the real situation in Cambodia," said Ms. Foryama Yuko, head of the Japanese "peace boat" delegation which arrived at Cambodia's seaport of Kompong Som on December 12.

At a meeting with leaders of Kompong Som City, Ms. Foryama said: Like the Cambodian people, we cherish peace, not war. While here we witness substantial achievements recorded by the Cambodian people over the past nearly 11 years. I hope the solidarity and friendship between the peoples of Japan and Cambodia would be consolidated and developed. For us, we will do our utmost to contribute to peace and development in Cambodia and help the Japanese people and the people of Asia as well to better understand the reality in Cambodia.

During a visit to a hospital in Phnom Penh, Ms. Ito Keiko, another member of the group, said: I have seen with my own eyes the efforts made by the Government of the State of Cambodia in improving the health of the Cambodian people and in healing serious wounds left by the genocidal Pol Pot regime. I am deeply moved by the country's beautiful landscapes and the Cambodian people's hard working. I hope that Cambodia will have a very bright future.

Some 350 members of the "peace boat" have visited schools, orphanages and many localities in the city of Kompong Som, Phnom Penh, and the Angkor Wat in Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province. The "peace boat" has left Kompong Som city for the Kingdom of Thailand and to other Asian countries after its call at Cambodian port.

New Lao Ambassador Calls on Chairman Hun Sen

BK1912103489 Vientiane KPL in English 0858 GMT 19 Dec 89

[Text] Vientiane, December 19 (KPL)—Thongsoukhou Phoumsavan, new ambassador of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the State of Cambodia, on Dec. 13 called on Hun Sen, Politburo member of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea Central Committee, chairman of the Council of Ministers and foreign minister of the State of Cambodia, in Phnom Penh, reports SPK.

Chairman Hun Sen warmly welcomed the Lao diplomat's mission which, he said, will contribute to further consolidating and developing the solidarity, friendship and multiform cooperation between the parties, governments and peoples of the two countries.

The Cambodian leader informed his guest of significant achievements recorded by the Cambodian people over the past nearly 11 years which he said are inseparable from the precious support and assistance of the fraternal socialist countries, particularly Vietnam, Laos and the Soviet Union.

Chairman Hun Sen also told the Lao diplomat of new developments relating to a political solution to the Cambodian question.

In reply, Thongsoukhou Phoumsavan highly valued the rapid growth of the State of Cambodia in all domains over the past decade, particularly the peace efforts made by the Cambodian Government. He said he would do all he could to further consolidate and strengthen the solidarity, friendship and multiform cooperation between the parties, governments and peoples of the two countries as well as the three Indochinese countries.

He expressed the Lao Government's and people's full support for the Cambodian Government's effort in quest of an early political solution to the Cambodian issue and for the just struggle of the Cambodian people against the return to power of the genocidal Pol Pot regime.

Justice Minister Receives Lao Delegation

BK2512110389 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 25 Dec 89

[Text] On the afternoon of 22 December at the office of the Justice Ministry, Comrade U. Bunchhoeun, the State of Cambodia's justice minister, cordially received the delegation of the Lao Justice Ministry led by Comrade Kou Souvannamethi, Lao justice minister.

Comrade U. Bunchhoeun welcomed and praised the visit by the Lao Justice Ministry delegation to Cambodia at a time when the State of Cambodia's party and state are assuming themselves the task to defend the motherland. The comrade stressed that the situation in Cambodia is changing and developing in every field with each passing day, including the legal sector of the State of Cambodia—which has undergone some changes with such laws on marriage, foreign investment, import-export, and so on. Comrade U. Bunchhoeun recalled the customs and the courageous tradition of struggle of the Cambodian and Lao peoples in the struggle against French colonialism, U.S. imperialism, and other reactionaries.

Replying, Comrade Kou Souvannamethi affirmed that the State of Cambodia's people and army will certainly be capable of defending their country, while the genocidal Pol Pot clique and other reactionaries are moving toward defeat both politically and militarily. The comrade affirmed that the Lao and Cambodian peoples, like the two parties and states, have always made efforts to strengthen the relations of friendship and solidarity and cooperation for the prosperity of Laos and Cambodia.

Tie Banh Addresses Meeting To Mark VPA Day

8K211207189 Phnom Penh Domestic Service
in Cambodia 0430 GMT 21 Dec 89

[Text] To mark the 45th founding anniversary of the fraternal Vietnamese People's Army [VPA], this morning at the Basak festival hall, the committee in charge of organizing national and international festivals organized a solemn meeting chaired by Comrade Chea Sim, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of both the National Assembly and the National Council of the Kampuchean United Front for National Construction and Defense.

Present on the occasion were, among others, Comrade Nguon Nheu, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and secretary of the Phnom Penh municipal party committee; Comrade General Tie Banh, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and defense minister; Comrade Sam Sondorom, member of the party Central Committee and first secretary of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Youth Union; leaders from the party, state, and mass organizations, ministers, deputy ministers, directors general, deputy directors general, representatives of the Armed Forces, and over 2,000 cadres, workers, and various nationalities. Comrade Ngo Dinh, SRV ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Cambodia, and Comrade Colonel Pham Van Lang, Vietnamese military attache to Cambodia, and comrade ambassadors, chargé d'affaires, and foreign guests were also present on this occasion.

Addressing the meeting, Comrade General Tie Banh and Comrade Colonel Pham Van Lang recalled the VPA's tradition of struggle, the Cambodia-Vietnam militant solidarity, and the immediate tasks to be implemented by our cadres and combatants in the current phase of assuming ourselves the task of defending and building the motherland and sharing solidarity feelings among the two countries, Cambodia and Vietnam.

Tie Banh Visits Troops in Banteay Meanchey

8K1912135189 Phnom Penh Domestic Service
in Cambodia 1200 GMT 19 Dec 89

[Text] A Defense Ministry delegation led by Comrade General Tie Banh, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and minister of National Defense, paid a visit to Banteay Meanchey Province.

Accompanying the delegation were Comrade Major General Chey Sengyan, member of the party Central Committee and first deputy chief of the General Political Department; Comrade Colonel (Long Sopeap), commander of the 4th Military Region; and many cadres from the ministry and the military region.

The delegation visited the artillery unit of the Banteay Meanchey Military Command and inspected the situation in the province.

The delegation went to places where our cadres and combatants are courageously carrying out their duty to defend our motherland in the frontline areas of Banteay Meanchey Province and presented them with gifts. The gifts included scarves, cigarettes, food seasoning, radios, and a large quantity of consumer goods.

During the visit, Comrade Gen Tie Banh sincerely commended our cadres and combatants who have sacrificed their flesh and blood for the cause of the motherland and exhorted them to make all-out efforts to surmount all obstacles in order to set a model for combatants in the next generation.

During this intimate meeting, all cadres and combatants pledged to fight resolutely to defend their footing and to continue searching and sweeping for the enemies in order to defeat them in the near future.

On the same day, the delegation distributed aid, such as scarves, mosquito nets, blankets, rice, instant noodles, white sugar, canned fish, and food seasoning, to people who have fled from their hometown near Niveth Monastery in Mongkolbores District because the enemies robbed them and burned down their houses.

Comrade General Tie Banh expressed profound love and respect to these people and exhorted them to always nurture hatred against the genocidal Pol Pot clique and the other Cambodian reactionaries who have destroyed our people's peaceful life.

Bou Thang Opens Army Party Training Course

8K2712074589 Phnom Penh Domestic Service
in Cambodia 1200 GMT 26 Dec 89

[Text] A solemn ceremony was held recently at the Army Party School to open a course on party and political work. Attending in the presidium were, among others, Comrade General Bou Thang, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and chief of the General Political Department; Comrade Colonel An Sum, deputy chief of the General Political Department; Comrade (Mam Sarin), head of the Theoretical and Political Training Directorate of the Central Propaganda and Education Commission; Comrade Colonel Kru Tan, director of the Army Political School; Comrade Lieutenant Colonel (Mao Sum), chairman of the school's Organization Commission; Comrade Major (Chan Sophaktra), first vice chairman of the school board; Comrade Major Dam Daravut, director of the Army Party School; and several commissioners from the General Political Department. The first class of the school's trainees from all military regions, provinces, and divisions also attended.

In front of all the trainees present, Comrade Gen Bou Thang, chief of the General Political Department, talked in detail about the new developments in the country, especially the military situation. He said the situation between our side and the enemies is tense and complex.

Therefore, we must strengthen our fighting spirit and prevent in good time all enemy attempts to plunder and massacre our people.

Comrade Gen Bou Thang also made a number of suggestions urging the trainees to study hard and set examples during this inaugural course so that once they return to their units they can successfully carry out their tasks.

This ceremony wound up in a joyous and cordial atmosphere after Comrade Major (Norang Eng), on behalf of all trainees, had pledged to do everything possible to fulfill their tasks, especially to complete their training with success.

Local Army Commissar Describes Battle Results

8K2712102989 Phnom Penh Domestic Service
in Cambodian 1800 GMT 26 Dec 89

[Summary] "Following is our station correspondent's interview with Major Ung Oeun, army political commissar of Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province, dealing with the activities and overall results of the armed units of Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province, during the first 11 months of 1989."

[Begin recording] [Correspondent] Please tell us of the results of sweeping operations during the first 11 months of the year.

[Ung Oeun] "The enemy situation in our Siem Reap Province, which is adjacent to the Thai border, is most complex as the local terrain is very rough and densely wooded, which enables the enemies to set up temporary hideouts and surreptitiously open up passages for infiltration into the interior.

"As a matter of fact, during the monsoon, in September and October 1989, the enemies made all-out efforts after mustering their forces to attack the 3d company of the province. We withstood their attack and killed three of them on the spot. We successfully defended our position and defeated the enemies there. Another time, they attacked one of our companies in Kambor commune, Svay Luu District. After 5 hours of fighting, our brothers killed 4 enemy soldiers, wounded 15 others, and seized 2 weapons."

Of late, the enemies seemed to have changed their tactics by reverting to frontal attacks but we have always been ready for them. It has been easy for us to be prepared because we captured some documents from them.

[Correspondent] Tell of future prospects based on recent successes?

[Ung Oeun] "We are not worried about the enemies. They have become weak. In fact, speaking of our province alone, just our militia forces could capture a whole regiment of the enemies. As a matter of fact, of Son Sane's 5th operational zone, we captured 52 of his soldiers, killed one of his lieutenant colonels and one of his majors. On 30 June 1989, the men of the 2d company

of Sre Sane District's 13th battalion surrounded and captured 50 enemy soldiers within 20 minutes, including a major of the 2d division under the command of Chakkrapong [son of Norodom Sihamoni]."¹ From these examples, we can see that the enemies are weak and demoralized. It will be easy for us to crush them in the future.

[Correspondent] What do you plan to do to win more successes in the concluding month of 1989 as well as in the coming years?

[Ung Oeun] "Naturally we plan to muster all our combined forces and launch more vigorous sweeping operations against the enemies to influence the other sectors in the localities. We will especially concentrate on providing ideological and political instruction for our cadres, combatants, and people everywhere so that they become fully aware of their duty to contribute to the three revolutionary movements, especially the work of attacking the enemies during the dry season." We also plan to further consolidate existing units so they become the true masters of the defense perimeters. "Moreover, we are concentrating on expanding the rank of the party in the Armed Forces. We have so far set up six army party chapters in the localities. In addition to the provincial party committee, we now have seven party committees." [End recording]

Kratie Deputy Army Commander on Combat Actions

8K2712074489 Phnom Penh Domestic Service
in Cambodian 1800 GMT 24 Dec 89

[Interview with First Lieutenant Mak Tankom, deputy commander of Kratie Provincial Military Command, by station correspondent on local defense activities and combat achievements in 1989—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Correspondent] Could you please inform us about the activities and achievements in the fight against the enemies by cadres and combatants in 1989, particularly the outcome of the fight against the enemies and to defend our localities following the total withdrawal of Vietnamese Army volunteers at the end of September?

[Mak Tankom] In the past year, the enemies attempted to intensify their activities against our province. As a matter of fact, the three enemy groups kept sending more forces into our province to carry on sabotage activities, destroying villages and communes and killing our people, in an attempt to seize control of Kratie Province for use as a ("passage) and cut off contacts between Kratie Province and the 1st Military Region. However, all these dreams and activities of the enemies were frustrated and defeated severely by our Armed Forces. Until now, the enemies have been unable to remedy their losses.

As a matter of fact, in the past year, we sent our forces to launch operations on 587 occasions. During these operations, we clashed with the enemies on 100 occasions. As a result, we killed 233 enemies, wounded 176, captured

10, arrested 34 planted enemy agents, seized 114 assorted weapons, including 77 AK's, 11 B-40's, 10 B-41's, 6 B-62's, an SK, 6 AK-15's, an M-79, and 2 SKS guns, and destroyed 20 weapons, including 16 AK's and 4 B-40's. Particularly after the Vietnamese Army volunteers' total withdrawal in September, our provincial armed forces enhanced their sense of responsibility for national defense and doubled their defense efforts. All units have always strengthened their combat readiness and fought to sweep the enemies, thus ensuring security for the people.

In fact, after our friends withdrew, we killed 57 enemies, wounded 40, captured 8 others, and seized 16 weapons—11 AK's, a B-41, 1 B-40's, and a K-54—3 radios, 12 wristwatches, 3 grenades, 6 20-watt tape recorders, a typewriter, and a large quantity of materiel.

[Correspondent] How have your units contributed to the pacification work?

[Mak Tansom] Concerning the work to persuade misled persons to return to the fold, our units have paid attention to carrying out this work correctly in line with our party-state policy toward all those who have returned to our authorities and revolution. [passage omitted] In the past year, 244 misled persons returned to live with our people, bringing along 119 weapons, including 81 AK's, 10 B-40's, 10 B-40.5's, a B-62, 10 (pistols), 4 AR's, and an M-16. [passage omitted]

10-12 Dec Combat Activities Reported

BB.2012063789 Phnom Penh Domestic Service
in Cambodian 1200 GMT 19 Dec 89

[Excerpt] According to a report from the front, on 12 December our Armed Forces launched a vigorous counterattack on a group of reactionaries attempting to infiltrate our area at Say Saman in Banteay Meanchey Province. In fierce fighting our forces totally mastered the battlefield and inflicted losses on the enemy. We killed 10 of them, wounded 2 others, and seized a quantity of war materiel.

An incomplete report from Battambang Province says that on 12 December the 4th Division launched a sweep operation against the enemy at Tuol village west of Akkar Var, killing 44 of them.

On 10 December, the militia unit of Rumsel Commune, Rakan District, Pursat Province, encircled the enemy launching activities in areas 4 km south of O Ta Pong. Our militia unit captured three Poi Pot soldiers and seized a quantity of war materiel.

On 9 December, the Armed Forces of Angkor Chum District in Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province launched sweep operations and ambushed the enemy in areas 27 km north of Siem Reap Province. We killed one, wounded two others, and seized two weapons. One enemy also turned himself in to our forces. On the same day, another group of the Angkor Chum District forces

launched a sweep operation against the enemy in an area 8 km southeast of Chongkai. We killed seven of them, captured a commander, and seized a B-40 1/2, an RPG, and a quantity of war materiel. [passage omitted]

Military Activities in Battambang, Siem Reap

BB.2612141789 Phnom Penh Domestic Service
in Cambodian 1300 GMT 26 Dec 89

[Text] Here is a report from the frontline:

According to frontline news sources, despite their repeated serious attacks, the three groups of Khmer reactionaries continue to adventure into a number of provinces adjacent to the Thai border. They have burned down rice in the fields, set people's homes ablaze, and savagely shot at and killed villagers.

However, all the ferocious acts and designs of these enemies have been promptly punished by the regular, regional, and militia forces operating in cooperation with the police forces and local authorities and enjoying the moral and material support of the population. Consequently, the enemies have been dealt shameful defeats on every battlefield.

As a matter of fact, on 19 December all types of Armed Forces of Battambang Province ambushed enemies attempting to cross the Dang Tong area, killing 12 enemy soldiers and seizing 5 weapons.

In Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province, also on 19 December, cadres and combatants of the armed units of Srey Snam District used combined forces and combined measures to conduct a sweeping operation against the enemies in an area 8 km northwest of the district seat. After a 30-minute clash, they killed three enemy soldiers on the spot and wounded several others, who were dragged away by their friends.

Through the results of past combat activities against the enemies, we can see the growing capability of frontline Cambodian People's Armed Forces, especially the militia forces, who have become stronger and more efficient in attacking the enemies and ensuring security for the local population.

Sam Sane Opposes Proposal on UN Seat 12 Dec

BB.1712051589 (Condensate) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodia
2315 GMT 16 Dec 89

[Text] On 12 December, Mr. Sam Sane, prime minister of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea (CGDK), voiced opposition to the statements aimed at leaving Cambodia's seat at the United Nations vacant, made by the Hanoi Vietnamese aggressors and their puppets.

He said that the objection to the insistence that Cambodia's UN seat be left vacant voiced by Samdech

Norodom Sihanouk, president of Democratic Kampuchea and head of the Cambodian national resistance forces, is very correct.

He accused puppet Hun Sen, traitor and lackey of the Vietnamese aggressors, who has kept echoing his baseless insistence, of having evil intentions for the Hanoi Vietnamese aggressors to win alone.

He stressed that an overwhelming majority of 124 peace- and justice-loving countries have supported the CGDK and condemned the Hanoi Vietnamese aggressors and the Vietnamese puppets. Only 17 countries remain opposed to this.

He added that leaving the Cambodian seat at United Nations vacant is meaningless. If we really want peace, we should convene another Paris international conference.

In conclusion, Son Sann appealed to all Cambodian factions to reconcile with each other and to jointly oppose the Vietnamese policy of aggression against Cambodia.

Resistance Attacks Township of Chhlong District

BB.2712051189 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodia
2315 GMT 26 Dec 89

[Excerpt] On 18 December, our Cambodian national resistance forces attacked the Vietnamese enemy and their puppets in the township of Chhlong District, Kratie Province, destroying an SRV-puppet battalion position at the Chhlong paper factory and four enemy company positions which were part of Chhlong District's defensive network—the Kancho monastery position, the position defending the Chhlong District office building, the Han Chrey position, and the Pongro monastery position, as well as another position at Chi Nit monastery in Kruch Chhna District, eastern Kompong Cham Province.

Along with the successes scored by our national resistance forces in the township of Chhlong District, we also dismantled seven enemy administrative networks in the communes of Kancho, Prek Chhman, Chhlong, Han Chrey, Pongro, and Khsach Andet in Chhlong District, Kratie Province, as well as that in Chi Nit Commune, Kruch Chhna District, eastern Kompong Cham Province.

Moreover, we also routed and destroyed all the Vietnamese administrative networks along the eastern bank of the Mekong River from Prek Chhlaek, Kancho Commune, Chhlong District, Kratie Province, to Sarika Keo Village, Chhlong Commune, Kruch Chhna District, eastern Kompong Cham Province.

We killed 76 Vietnamese enemies and puppets, including a Vietnamese official of the Kratie provincial authority, 2 battalion commanders, and 3 company commanders, and wounded 81 others. [passage omitted]

Commentary Analyzes Vo Chi Cong's Warning

BB.2612041589 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodia
2315 GMT 23 Dec 89

[("Short commentary" "The Hanoi Leadership Is Worried That Events in Eastern Europe Might Occur in Vietnam")]

[Text] Vietnamese President Vo Chi Cong, in his address to the Vietnamese National Assembly on 19 December [as heard], warned that the Communist Party of Vietnam must scrupulously learn the lessons of the events in East Europe in order to avoid losing power.

The statement reflects the Vietnamese leadership's fear that the radical changes which have occurred in the countries of the Soviet Bloc might appear in Vietnam. The Hanoi leaders are worried about events in East Europe because the Soviet Bloc's Council for Mutual Economic Assistance is a source of support and assistance to the war of aggression waged by Vietnam against Cambodia.

In Vietnam this year, the situation has become increasingly serious because of widespread economic and social crises. This could develop into a political crisis as the Vietnamese people would have no more confidence in the Hanoi leadership. The economic and social crises in Vietnam stem from Vietnam's heavy defeats on Cambodia's battlefields and its being isolated both politically and economically in the world.

To ease the political crisis and restore its severely crippled economy, Vietnam must provide a comprehensive political settlement to its war of aggression against Cambodia in line with the following two key principles:

1. Vietnam must withdraw all of its aggressor forces from Cambodia under an international control to be implemented by the United Nations with the cooperation from the four Cambodian parties.
2. Formation of a provisional equal quadripartite Cambodian government headed by His Royal Highness Samdech Norodom Sihanouk to organize elections.

Only by so doing can peace and tranquility be restored in Cambodia and will Vietnam be able to pool its manpower and resources to pull itself out of its domestic economic quagmire.

Issuing of ID Cards to SRV Settlers Condemned

BB.2612041589 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodia
2315 GMT 23 Dec 89

[Unattributed commentary: "The Maneuver To Issue Identity Cards to Vietnamese Settlers Is Part of the Scheme To Deceive the United Nations Into Endorsing Vietnam's Trick of Hiding Troops in Cambodia"]

[Text] The Vietnamese aggressors in Phnom Penh are circulating the news that they will issue identity cards to

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Vietnamese settlers in Cambodia. In fact this will apply to only a minority of the Vietnamese settlers as the majority have already been given Cambodian citizenship by the SRV aggressors. The aggressors have ordered the Phnom Penh lackey puppets to issue identity cards and to grant Cambodian citizenship to up to a million Vietnamese settlers so that, through these settlers and other Vietnamese aggressor forces mixed among the puppet regime, Vietnam can continue to occupy Cambodia and implement the Vietnamization policy.

The world can now more clearly see through the maneuver by which the Vietnamese aggressors have ordered their puppets to appeal to the United Nations to supervise the so-called elections in Cambodia.

It is worth noting that the puppets have called for UN supervision of the elections but have said nothing about verification of Vietnamese aggressor forces in hiding in Cambodia. This is because their goal is to fool the United Nations into legalizing the puppet regime and the hidden Vietnamese aggressor forces which include naturalized Vietnamese settlers in the puppet regime and other covert SRV forces within the puppet departments, administration, and army.

However, this gross deception cannot go on unchecked. Neither the Cambodian people—who have been bitterly suffering for 11 years because of the aggression committed by hundreds of thousands of Vietnamese troops and settlers—nor the people the world over can be duped by the Vietnamese aggressors' tricks.

In fact, at annual sessions of the UN General Assembly Vietnam has been vehemently condemned for sending Vietnamese settlers to annex Cambodia. Likewise, at the conference held in Paris in July and August, the majority of delegates condemned the Vietnamese aggressors for shipping Vietnamese settlers to Cambodia for the purpose of invading and occupying the country and demanded that it withdraw those forces from Cambodia under strict international control and supervision.

That being the case, Vietnam's maneuver of issuing identity cards will eventually meet shameful defeat as was the case with the gambit of withdrawing troops from Cambodia unilaterally.

The only way out for the Hanoi authorities is that:

1. They must withdraw all types of their aggressor forces, including the Vietnamese settlers, from Cambodia under genuine UN control and supervision.
2. They must allow for the formation of a provisional equal quadripartite Cambodian government with His Royal Highness Samdech Norodom Sihanouk as leader.

Two Bridges in Svay Dom-keo Said Destroyed

BB.2712001889 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodia
2712 GMT 26 Dec 89

[Text] Here is the primary report on Route 5 battlefield and the railroad between Mousng [District, Battambang Province] and Pursat Province.

On 26 December, our national resistance forces attacked the township of Svay Dom-keo, located on Route 5 between Mousng and the provincial city of Pursat.

We completely destroyed two bridges in Svay Dom-keo, one is on Route 5 and the other on the railroad. Each bridge is 60-meters long.

Now, the Vietnamese enemy convoys' access by road and railroad to the western region is completely cut off.

KPNLF Secretary General Interviewed on Stance

BB.2712100189 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodia 0400 GMT 27 Dec 89

[Interview with KPNLF Secretary General Ieng Mok, by station correspondent; date, place not given—recorded]

[Summary: From Poor Reception] [Correspondent] Lately there has been a spate of diplomatic activities concerning the search for a solution to the Cambodian problem. There was the Australian proposal last month, which has generated strong reaction. What is the stance of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF) regarding the current search for a Cambodian solution?

[Ieng Mok] Thank you for asking me. Our KPNLF has specific ideas regarding the national liberation struggle. "First, it has never been in our mind to solve the problem through the use of force. We have never thought of fighting to the death to realize the end. Our stance is to prompt, to encourage a political solution. Regarding this political solution, let me tell you that our front has our three-point principle as follows:

"First, all foreign forces, especially the Vietnamese forces, must withdraw from Cambodia. Vietnam's announced 26 September 1989 complete troop withdrawal conducted without specific verification has not won the trust of the world. We know that there are still Vietnamese troops in our motherland despite the fact that Vietnamese leaders have not yet let these Vietnamese troops engage in directly. We know that behind the Heng Samrin-Hu Sen forces, especially those on the Sisophon Battlefield, there are at least 300 Vietnamese soldiers." There are also disguised, concealed Vietnamese troops, as well as 1 million Vietnamese colonists, in Cambodia. Therefore, the KPNLF holds that only the United Nations has the ability and possibility to monitor and control the Vietnamese presence.

"Second, we abide by the principle that all Cambodians must be reconciled." We have suffered so much from

division and separation. Our policy is to achieve national reconciliation. "To achieve national reconciliation, it is not right to reject this or that party. However, in this sense, in order to achieve national reconciliation, those who are responsible, those who know that they are responsible for the present state of the country, should pull out of the political scene to allow for national reconciliation, for example, the creation of a quadripartite coalition government headed by Samsor Norodom Sihanouk.

"Last, but not least, the Cambodian people must be given the right to determine their own destiny. The Cambodian people, the small people who have suffered so much for the past 2 decades, must be given the right to determine the future of the country, to decide on the social, economic, and political systems of our nation. In other words, elections must be conducted to give the above-said right to the people." The elections should be free and general throughout the country. There must be an organized authority to prepare the elections. This is why we have proposed that the quadripartite coalition government be assigned to supervise the elections so that all four parties can participate in them.

Because we have consistently adhered to these three-point principles, 124 countries at the UN General Assembly have supported us. Once again, our stance is first, the UN should supervise the Vietnamese troop withdrawal from Cambodia; second, the regime whose hands are stained with the blood of the Cambodian people should not be allowed to return to power; and third, general elections should be organized under UN supervision.

In his proposal, the Australian foreign minister called for an important role to be played by the United Nations to organize elections in Cambodia. "Our front most warmly welcomes this proposal of the Australian foreign minister." What we want is to see our people enjoy self-determination through just and fair elections. "One thing unacceptable to us is his demand that the Cambodian seat be left vacant. Some countries wish to equate our country with Namibia. Let me tell you that Cambodia cannot be compared to Namibia, for Cambodia is occupying a seat at the United Nations—we are a full-fledged member of the United Nations, whereas Namibia is not a UN member. Therefore, should the Cambodian seat be declared vacant, it would be tantamount to setting a bad precedent for the future. Any country could invade another country, set up a puppet government, and then demand the UN seat or, failing that, demand that it be vacant. Therefore, this is unacceptable to us. However, we can discuss this issue and select a representative to occupy the Cambodian seat at the United Nations. And should the Heng Samrin-Hun Sen faction agree and sincerely want to solve the Cambodian problem, we might invite Hun Sen to join us in occupying the Cambodian seat at the United Nations. This is our stance. Or we might propose that the United Nations or the UN secretary general occupy the seat for us—Cambodians of the four factions—at the United

Nations. Nevertheless, we cannot accept that the Cambodian seat be declared vacant."

[Correspondent] The stances of the KPNLF and that of the National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia (FUNCINPEC) are similar. Both factions accept the role of the United Nations in Cambodia. The Heng Samrin-Hun Sen faction also said it would study the Australian proposal on the UN role. If the three factions all agree on the UN role, then what are the points on which they disagree with each other?

[Ieng Moli] "In principle, we noncommunist factions of both the KPNLF and FUNCINPEC do not have any serious differences of views. One small discrepancy is that our front is of the position that the Cambodian seat at the United Nations must not be left vacant, that it should be occupied by representatives, be it either occupied by all four factions or by a representative at the United Nations. As far as the role of the United Nations in Cambodia is concerned, I see no difference at all. However, in principle the Heng Samrin-Hun Sen regime has not made any significant concession so that we can advance toward realizing a comprehensive political solution despite the fact that Hun Sen has announced that he would recognize the UN role. As you all know, they refuse to dissolve their regime and administration even if the United Nations would be allowed to organize the elections.

"They might let the United Nations come in but they demanded that the Cambodian seat be declared vacant and, in addition, they wanted their regime and administration to be maintained intact. This is a major difference."

[Correspondent] Therefore, according to Hun Sen, the United Nations would be let in in name only, for it would not be given any right to do anything as the Phnom Penh regime would continue the control.

[Ieng Moli] "Yes, in other words, the United Nations would come just to put a stamp of approval on the preparations for the elections that would actually be undertaken by the Heng Samrin regime pretending that they are internationally organized."

14,000 SRV Troops Said Sent in November

8823112102989 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 22 Dec 89

[“News Commentary” entitled, “The Vietnamese Enemies Sent Fresh Vietnamese Troops to Cambodia in Order To Continue Their Aggression and Occupation of Cambodia”]

[Text] In November 1989, the Hanoi Vietnamese aggressors sent over 14,000 fresh Vietnamese troops to Cambodia. These Vietnamese troops were sent to be stationed in various provinces, such as Battambang, Siem

Reap, Pursat, Kompong Chhnang, Koh Kong, Kompong Speu, Takeo, Kampot, and Kompong Cham.

At present, in addition to maintaining a large number of their aggressor forces in Cambodia, the Hanoi Vietnamese aggressors have kept sending fresh Vietnamese troops and modern weapons, ammunition, and war matériel to Cambodia in order, on the one hand, to resist our national resistance forces and, on the other hand, to continue to strengthen Vietnamese occupation in Cambodia.

This shows that the Vietnamese aggressors have not abandoned their Indochinese Federation strategy to annex Cambodia. No matter what serious defeats and difficulties they are facing, the Hanoi authorities have obstinately carried out all kinds of deceitful schemes in order to send more troops from Vietnam to forever occupy Cambodia.

The whole world is well aware of the Vietnamese enemies' aggressive nature against Cambodia. The world will continue to put all kinds of pressure on Vietnam in order to force it to accept Samdech Norodom Sihanouk's five-point peace plan, particularly the two important key points for a comprehensive political settlement of the Cambodian problem, that is the total withdrawal of Vietnamese aggressor troops from Cambodia under the supervision of a UN-sponsored International Control Commission and with the joint supervision by the four Cambodian factions and the establishment of a provisional four-party coalition government headed by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk to organize the elections in Cambodia.

Only by so doing can the Cambodian problem be genuinely resolved politically, justly, reasonably, and permanently.

More SRV Troops 'Uncovered'

BA2212021089 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian
2315 GMT 21 Dec 89

[Text] In early December, our Cambodian national resistance forces operating south of National Route 4 in Kompong Speu Province and in Takeo Province between National Routes 2 and 3, in cooperation with our people, uncovered three more positions where Vietnamese enemy soldiers were hiding in the jungle.

1. A regiment of Vietnamese troops hiding at Phichor Khor, approximately over 10 km south of Kompong Speu provincial town in Kong Pisei District in Kompong Speu Province.

2. A regiment of Vietnamese troops hiding in the Spean Thual area between National Routes 2 and 3 in Takeo Province.

3. A battalion of Vietnamese troops stationed at Phnom Pich Nil. Soldiers of this Vietnamese battalion at Pich Nil disguised themselves as:

a. Workers felling trees, producing firewood and charcoal, and so on.

b. Traders buying lumber, firewood, charcoal, and other goods.

All these activities of the Vietnamese enemies clearly show that the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy aggressors continue to occupy Cambodia in accordance with their Indochinese Federation strategy. This is why they have refused the establishment of a UN organization to supervise the complete withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Cambodia and of a four-party provisional Cambodian government headed by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk. This also confirms that Vietnamese enemy forces have not been withdrawn as the Vietnamese have deceitfully announced. Their old forces in Cambodia continue to be in hiding and fresh troops continue to be successively brought from Vietnam to Cambodia to continue occupying Cambodia forever.

Hanoi Said To Fear Spread of East Bloc Unrest

BA1812044589 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 14 Dec 89

[Short commentary: "The Hanoi Leadership Is Worried That the Events in Eastern Europe Might Be Repeated in Vietnam"]

[Text] The Vietnamese paper NHAN DAN on 12 December carried an article signed by Nguyen Van Linh, ringleader of the Hanoi leadership, urging the Communist Party of Vietnam to continue to wield exclusive power and to further consolidate and expand this power. Observers in Hanoi said concerns were heard within the Hanoi leadership at a time when socialist countries in the Soviet Bloc are being shaken and splintered by near collapse because of the resistance and revolts of the peoples in those countries.

In Vietnam, the Vietnamese people, civil servants, and even Army cadres and combatants are becoming increasingly indignant at the Hanoi leaders for implementing a policy of aggression and expansion in the region and for sending hundreds of thousands of troops to invade and occupy Cambodia, thus wreaking havoc to Vietnam's economy and causing so much misery to the Vietnamese people that millions of them are now facing the danger of famine.

The Hanoi leaders are worried that this indignation of the Vietnamese people might one day deteriorate into revolts against them, as is the case in the Soviet Bloc socialist countries. They are also aware that should this happen, as it is happening in Eastern Europe, they would be sent to the gallows by the Vietnamese people because they have committed most serious offenses against the Vietnamese nation and people—as well as against both the Cambodian people and those in the rest of this region. For this reason, the Hanoi leadership has been taking all sorts of measures to prevent the same events as those in Eastern Europe from happening here.

However, so long as they continue to commit aggression against and refuse to withdraw troops from Cambodia, [and refuse] to concentrate forces on rebuilding Vietnam's economy and improving the Vietnamese people's living conditions, it will be difficult for them to prevent such events from happening.

'Cause' of Political Settlement Problem Viewed

BB.271208389 (Clandestine) *Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodia* 2330 GMT 26 Dec 89

[Short commentary: "What Is the Root Cause of the Stumbling Block to the Political Settlement of the Cambodian Problem?"]

[Text] At both the Paris International Conference on Cambodia in July 1989 and the 16 November session of the 44th UN General Assembly, the overwhelming majority of the delegates demanded that Vietnam withdraw its aggressor forces in all their forms from Cambodia under the effective control and supervision of the United Nations and allow for the formation of a provisional, equal quadripartite government of national reconciliation headed by His Royal Highness Samdech Norodom Sihamoni in order to arrive at a comprehensive political solution to the question of the Vietnamese war of aggression against Cambodia. However, the Hanoi authorities were categorically opposed to effective UN control and supervision over the complete withdrawal of their aggressor troops from Cambodia and the formation of an interim four-party Cambodian government.

Why did the Hanoi authorities object to these two fundamental conditions? Because they have never considered renouncing their strategy of swallowing Cambodia and annexing the region. They have to keep their troops and all their aggressor forces, including 1 million Vietnamese settlers, in Cambodia for the purpose of controlling the puppet regime and further occupying Cambodia in accordance with their Indochinese federation strategy. This is the root cause of the obstacle to a political settlement of the Cambodian problem.

The Cambodian problem can be settled politically if the impediment is removed. This means that stronger pressure must be applied on Vietnam until it is forced to give up its policy of swallowing Cambodia and annexing the region. If Vietnam put aside its strategy, the questions of Vietnamese troop withdrawal, formation of a provisional quadripartite government, and the UN role, as well as other questions concerning a comprehensive political settlement of the Cambodian problem, would be totally solved. But if no solution is found for these key questions, other issues will most certainly go unresolved.

Laos

Peace Committee Demands U.S. Action in Panama

BB.271204589 Vietnamese Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 27 Dec 89

[Text] Statement by the Lao Committee for World Peace and for Solidarity and Friendship With Various Nations on the Situation in Panama, date not given]

[Text] At a time when public opinion for peace the world over is concerned over the worsening situation in Central America, particularly in Nicaragua, El Salvador, and Panama, on 20 December the Washington administration ordered its troops to arrogantly, brutally, and barbarously attack Panama. This direct military attack by the United States once again shows the true nature of the expansionist policy of using force and autocracy implemented by a big country toward the smaller countries in Central America which want to follow a path of national independence and self-determination.

Everyone is well aware that the crisis in Panama, like Central America as a whole, is not a problem of democracy or violation of human rights. It is a problem arising from a policy of using force and interfering in the internal affairs of other countries, particularly by the United States, with a view to maintaining vital interests in this strategic region.

The use of military force to attack Panama and overthrow the government of General Manuel Noriega under various pretexts such as the restoration of democracy, suppression of drug trafficking, protection of the lives of American citizens in Panama in accordance with an international treaty, and so forth, further shows the intention of Washington to distort and destroy the historic Torrijos-Carter treaty of 1977 which clearly stipulates the democratic rights and sovereignty of the Panamanian people over the Panama canal after midnight 31 December 1999, principles of which have been protected by the Panamanian people in a courageous manner for the common interests of the nation.

In face of the U.S. administration's adventurous decision and military act violating the UN Charter, trampling the fundamental rights of the Panamanian nation, and sabotaging the stability in this region, The Lao Committee for World Peace and for Solidarity and Friendship with Various Nations and the Lao people resolutely and strongly oppose and denounce this aggression and demand that the U.S. Administration promptly put an end to its military operations in Panama, which run counter to the world trend of advancing to settling disputes through peaceful means.

19 Thai Citizens Detained in Champassak Province

BB.271205289 Vietnamese Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 27 Dec 89

[Text] According to a report from Champassak Province, on 17 December local authorities of Phouthong District,

Champassak Province, arrested and detained 19 Thai citizens from Thailand's Non Kailong village in Non-kang, Phibun Mangsahan District, Ubon Ratchathani Province, who intruded into Lao territory in the Boueng Phak-dent and Pak Houai Mong areas in Dong Houai Sai Canton and illegally felled logs in reserved forests in Champassak Province. The 19 Thai citizens are Chanlai Sengsuk, Khamson Ruancharoen, Kanta Wiramat, Phrom Tonkham, Put Tonkham, Charun Thongta, Bandit Namwong, Worasan Phumchan, Sayan Ruancharoen, Yot Wiramat, Suri Khampho, Wanna Khambo, Wang-in Champa, Sathan Duangchan, Ti Sackin, Ruan Duangchan, Ben Ruancharoen, Ruan Dakon, and Ngon Ruancharoen.

These Thai citizens illegally felled some 20 hardwood trees totaling 80 cubic meters and valued at nearly 6 million kip [Lao currency]. After being interrogated, the Thai citizens confessed that they infiltrated into Lao territory and illegally felled logs. They later agreed to fully comply with Lao law—to pay compensation for the loss, for example. They have also promised not to commit the same crime again.

Later, officials from Laos' Phouthong District and Thailand's Phibun Mangsahan District met to discuss ways to settle the issue.

Thais Ask Release of Citizens

BB261203589 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
26 Dec 89 p 2

[Text] Seven Pathet Lao troops were killed and 72 others wounded when resistance forces ambushed a convoy of five military trucks in Muong Kasi, 130 kilometres north of Vientiane, Thai intelligence sources said yesterday.

And in other developments concerning Laos, Thailand has asked Thai country to release unconditionally 19 Thais held for allegedly encroaching into Lao territory.

In the armed clash, the dead and the wounded were part of a reinforcement unit sent from Vientiane to a site, 40 kilometres south of Luang Prabang, where Pathet Lao troops had been ambushed earlier, with three killed and several weapons seized by the resistance.

The source said that the resistance force of Gen Vang Pao group had engaged several hit-and-run battles with the Pathet Lao troops at Muong Kasi and Sala Phou Khoun, Vangvieng and Nam Ngum, which are all in southern Luang Prabang.

Gen Vang Pao claimed in recent interview with the BANGKOK POST that his forces had liberated 17 villages in lower Luang Prabang. Meanwhile, Lao Ambassador to Thailand Khamphan Simmalavong was summoned to meet Director-General of the Political Affairs Department Pracha Khunakasem yesterday afternoon to discuss the detained Thais.

The Interior Ministry on Saturday asked the Foreign Ministry to negotiate the release. Foreign Minister Sithi Sawetsila told reporters yesterday.

The Foreign Ministry asked Laos to release the Thais unconditionally, compared with the Lao demand to fine each person 2,000 for the encroachment, and a total of 200,000 baht compensation for wood cut by the villagers in territory claimed by Laos.

Deputy Foreign Minister Praphat Limpaphan will visit Laos from January 4-6.

ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Sithi said Thailand is ready to discuss every issue pertaining to the border.

Kaysone Phomvihan Meets PRC Yunnan Delegates

BB261203589 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao
0900 GMT 26 Dec 89

[Text] In Vientiane yesterday afternoon, Kaysone Phomvihan, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], received a courtesy call from a PRC Government delegation from Yunnan Province led by Hu Zhiqiang, chairman of the Yunnan provincial administration, which is visiting our country.

On this occasion, Council of Ministers Chairman Kaysone Phomvihan welcomed the guests with pleasure. He informed them of the program of economic reform, in particular the implementation of the policy of broadening foreign investment in the LPDR. The guests and host also discussed Lao-Chinese friendship relations and cooperation in the present, and expressed the hope that these relations and cooperation will be further developed fruitfully in the immediate future for the common interests of the peoples of the two countries.

Cooperation Pact With PRC's Yunnan Province

BB261205089 Vientiane KPL in English 0930 GMT
26 Dec 89

[Text] Vientiane, Dec 26 (OANA-KPL)—Phao Bouannaphon, minister of trade and foreign economic relations, and Hu Zhiqiang, governor of Chinese Yunnan Province, signed yesterday evening an agreement on economic and trade cooperation between Laos and the Yunnan government of the People's Republic of China.

The agreement provides that the sides have agreed to a joint investment in the establishment of a 500 tons-a-year mineral ore exploitation and processing factory in the Pathet River basin, especially at Nong Son area. The Chinese side will send its geological technicians to conduct a survey of the ores in the northern provinces of Laos: Phong Saly, Luang Namtha, Oudomsai, Sayaboury, Luang Prabang and the central Vientiane Province, and will help surveying forest areas in the said provinces.

If this is of economic value, a further discussion on the matter will be held.

The Chinese side will also assist in building electric power stations in Luang Namtha, Oudomsai, and Phong Saly, join in a bidding project for road construction from Vangvieng to Luang Prabang, help surveying the Mekong River from Luang Prabang to the Lao-Chinese border area, aimed at exploiting the river transportation potential, building a rice genetic station and two small pig culture stations and farms in Luang Namtha and Phong Saly in the form of loan and repayment by products, building a car repairing workshop in Oudomsai with its own fund in addition to setting up department stores in Vientiane and Luang Prabang Provinces and Vientiane Prefecture.

In the evening of the same day, the Chinese delegation also signed with mayor of Vientiane Prefecture a memorandum on cooperation between the two sides. This involves joint investments in building a Chinese goods shop in the Lao capital and in building export-oriented goods and agricultural production bases in the capital.

In addition, the Yunnan side will provide help in expertise in livestock and food processing for both domestic consumption and export, and will send on a short-term mission its experts in hospitality, tourism, services, price and finance to help, according to the need, Vientiane Prefecture and to mutually exchange experiences on the matters.

The Chinese delegation left here this morning, ending its one-week visit to Laos.

Medals Awarded to SRV Individuals, Units

8K1612115689 Vientiane KPL in English 0911 GMT
16 Dec 89

[Text] Vientiane, December 16 (KPL)—A ceremony was held here yesterday to present 181 medals of various kinds and classes to individuals and units attached to Division 384 of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam in recognition of their contribution to building Road No 9.

Addressing the ceremony, Bouathong, member of the LPRP CC [Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee] and minister of communication, transport, post and construction, said that the Lao Government hailed and showed its gratitude for their great contribution to building Road No 9, a road important to the development of Laos socioeconomic.

Lao, SRV Control Committees Meet in Vientiane

8K2412112889 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao
1200 GMT 22 Dec 89

[Text] The meeting between the delegations of the Control Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] Central Committee and the Control and Supervision Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Central Committee was held in Vientiane Capital

yesterday afternoon. The Lao side was headed by Mrs Loua Chakouvan, member of the party Central Committee and first vice chairwoman of the Control Committee of the LPRP Central Committee and the Vietnamese side by Comrade Mrs Vu Thi Hong, member of the CPV Central Committee and vice chairwoman of the Control and Supervision Committee of the CPV Central Committee.

During the meeting, both sides exchanged and learned lessons on control and supervision work and the organization of the implementation of resolutions and directives of their party Central Committees and party's undertakings so as to improve the efficiency of the two countries' control committees.

The Vietnamese delegation arrived in Vientiane yesterday morning for a week-long visit to the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

Meeting Held To Mark VPA Founding Anniversary

8K2312085689 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao
1200 GMT 22 Dec 89

[Text] Yesterday evening, at the Army General Political Department's club, a grand meeting was held to mark the 45th founding anniversary of the Vietnamese People's Army [VPA]. Attending the meeting as guests of honor were Comrade Major General Osakan Thammathewa, member of the party Central Committee, deputy national defense minister, and director of the Army General Political Department; Comrade Nguyen Xuan, SRV ambassador to Laos; Comrade Major (Xuan Cong Ham), SRV military attache; and the Soviet military attache to Laos, together with more than 300 high- and middle-ranking officers and rank-and-file soldiers attached to the National Defense Ministry.

On this occasion, Comrade Brigadier General Thonglai Kommasi, member of the party Central Committee and first deputy director of the Army General Political Department, and Comrade (Xuan Cong Ham) took turns delivering speeches reviewing the history of the building, growth, and victorious struggle of the VPA, which was founded as an armed propaganda unit at the instruction of President Ho Chi Minh and the Indochinese Communist Party. After that, the VPA proceeded to pass through numerous fierce and uncompromising trials amidst the flames of struggle against the imperialist aggressors. Year after year, it scored more victories and grew stronger and more powerful to become a model modern army and a prop of the country. Finally, it marched forward to liberate the country from the yoke of imperialist occupation and to take it toward socialism.

History Cooperation Accord Signed With Cambodia

HK2312105489 Vientiane KPL in English 0921 GMT
23 Dec 89

[Text] Vientiane, December 23 (KPL)—An agreement on further cooperation in studying and compiling the history of the parties of Laos and Cambodia was reached here on Dec. 21.

The document signed by acting head of the Lao Committee for the Study of the LPRP's [Lao People's Revolutionary Party] History Oudheuang Phoumsavat and head of the Committee for the Study of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea Chey Saphon stipulates that there will be exchanges of facts relating to the parties of the two countries in 1990-91.

The Cambodian delegation left here for home on Dec. 22 ending its seven-day visit to the Lao PDR [People's Democratic Republic].

Maichantao Sengman Attends Phong Saly Meeting

HK2312105489 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao
0000 GMT 27 Dec 89

[Text] On 16 December, the administration of Bounxai District, Phong Saly Province, held a meeting to review achievements scored in carrying out the task of comprehensively building political foundations at the grass-roots level in the initial stage in Bounxai Canton. The meeting was chaired by Mai-on Isseng, acting secretary of the party committee and chairman of the Phong Saly provincial administration. Attending as guest of honor was Maichantao Sengman, member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the Central Party and State Control Committee.

The meeting heard reports from village administrative committees and cadres on lessons, good and weak points, in consolidating administration at the grass-roots level, reorganizing mass organizations, guiding increase in production to improve the people's living conditions, and rebuilding the people's cultural life. In their speeches at the meeting, the village committees and cadres pointed out, in depth, good or weak points on each issue, and suggested means for resolution. The participants contributed many views at the meeting in an enthusiastic and democratic atmosphere.

On this occasion, Maichantao Sengman also delivered a speech addressing the meeting. In his speech, he explained the significance of the task of consolidating, building, and strengthening the grass roots in all respects to translate into reality the seventh resolution of the fourth Party Central Committee, which says: Let all provinces, regions, and branches turn to the countryside, ranging from mountainous areas down to the grass roots.

Philippines**Government Announces Recognition of Romania**

HK2712102589 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan
in Tagalog 1000 GMT 27 Dec 89

[Text] Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus announced the government's official recognition of the new government of Romania headed by Ion Iliescu. Speaking at a press conference this morning, Manglapus also said that a general election will be held in Romania in April to elect the new leaders of the government currently headed by the National Salvation Committee. The primary objective of the new Romanian government is the dissolution of the country's old political structure.

Progressive Bloc Warns Against U.S. 'Meddling'

HK2512110889 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company
DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 25 Dec 89

[Text] The progressive bloc in the House of Representatives has warned against the continuous meddling by the United States in countries like the Philippines and Panama. Here is Dick Sinchongco with the details:

[Begin recording] [Sinchongco] The House progressive bloc expressed fears about the continuous meddling by the United States in Third World countries like the Philippines where it has vital interests.

Sorsogon Representative Bonifacio Gillego said that the developments in Panama and in South America are very disturbing, saying that several quarters had condemned the American invasion of Panama to overthrow the Panamanian strongman, Manuel Antonio Noriega. According to Gillego:

[Gillego in English] The most disturbing sign, of course, in international affairs is the one that happened in Panama because of the striking parallelism with the Philippine situation, which means that, for as long as the United States Government has vital stakes in a Third World country or developing country, the interests of the Americans prevail over local national interests. In the case of Panama, while it is true that Noriega is a scoundrel, the choice of Noriega or his holding an office in his own free and sovereign country is an internal domestic affair which the Panamanians themselves have to settle. That Panama is a sovereign and independent nation, and is a very small nation, where the United States has strategic interests gives us a lesson that, in the fight between an ant and elephant, it is the ant that perishes in the end.

[Sinchongco] At the same time, Gillego noted the events in the international front, particularly those in Romania and East Europe. He was glad to see that there is a strong movement in these places toward the attainment of democracy. [end recording]

Navy To Purchase Four New Ships From U.S.

HK271202389 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2800 GMT 26 Dec 89

[Text] The Philippine Navy is negotiating with the U.S. Government for the purchase of four new logistics support ships to replace its aging landing ship transports. Rear Admiral Carlito Cunanan, Navy flag officer in command, said: The brand-new ships will cost \$11.5 million each, chargeable to the Philippines-U.S. foreign military sales program. The ships will be constructed by Moss Point Marine in Mississippi, sister company of Halter Marine, which won the contract for the building of 35 patrol crafts of the Navy.

Aquino's Trip Cancellation May Offend USSR

HK2512111589 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 25 Dec 89

[Text] The Soviet Union may reportedly be offended by President Aquino's cancellation of her scheduled trip to Moscow next year. According to some officials at the Department of Foreign Affairs, the Soviet Embassy in Manila was not informed of the cancellation of the president's visit. This was the second time that the president had cancelled her trip to the Soviet Union.

Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Manuel Yan said the president had also cancelled her scheduled visits to Spain and United Kingdom in 1990. The president's cancellation of her foreign trips was caused by the rebel soldiers' coup attempt.

Meanwhile, Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Igor Rogachev is due to visit the Philippines in March 1990, supposedly to talk about President Aquino's visit to Moscow in 1990. Since the Soviet Embassy in Manila has not yet received a formal cancellation of the president's trip to Moscow, the Rogachev is still scheduled to come to the country.

New NBI Chief Assumes Office, Makes Statement

HK2212102789 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 22 Dec 89

[Slantlines denote passage in English]

[Excerpt] National Bureau of Investigations (NBI) director Antonio Carpio rejected the president's proposal that he become commissioner of the Commission on Immigration and Deportation (CID). This was learned from outgoing CID commissioner Bienvenido Alano, who claimed that Carpio told him this morning that he would refuse the CID position.

Alano called up Carpio after waiting for him at the CID all morning for a formal transfer of office. Carpio never showed up.

According to Alano, Carpio stated: /I am declining the appointment to become CID commissioner./

The refusal of both Alano and Carpio to serve as associate commissioner and CID chief, respectively, has created a vacuum in the leadership of the commission.

Meanwhile, NBI director Jesus Antonio Carpio formally turned over the National Bureau of Investigations to retired Major General Alfredo S. Lim, who was appointed to the post by President Aquino. The turnover ceremony took place at the NBI gym and was attended by top NBI officials and employees as well as Justice Secretary Sedfrey Ordóñez.

At the ceremony, the outgoing NBI director made a speech.

[Begin Carpio recording in English] Today, as I turn over the command, I am particularly grateful that I am turning over the reins of direction and control over our bureau to my worthy successor, who has demonstrated in times of crisis his loyalty to the republic, the Constitution, and the chain of command. Let us never forget that over and above our own particular personal leanings and yearnings, we have only one country, one people, and when we think of our people, we begin with those closest to us—our children—and the tomorrow that we should give them because our children deserve a far better tomorrow than we, of generation used [as heard], are having in our country today.

So, my fellow workers, as I bid you adieu, it is only hasta la vista [until we see each other again]. [end recording]

According to new NBI director Alfredo Lim, no changes will take place, because he believes that the men chosen by the outgoing director Carpio are all deserving of their posts and that there was no need for him to change any of the assistant directors or regional directors of the National Bureau of Investigations. However, Lim spoke with a heavy heart as he entered the NBI headquarters, because Carpio is a good friend, and he refuses to believe rumors concerning his appointment to replace Carpio. General Lim said he did not know the reason for his appointment, but that he was merely abiding by the country's chain of command.

Meanwhile, Carpio reiterated his decision to refuse the appointment as CID commissioner, but did not give his reasons. According to Carpio, he will return to Bicol to resume his private practice as a lawyer.

The new NBI director will begin work on Tuesday, 26 December.

In a related development, Andrea Domingo was sworn in as acting commissioner of the Commission on Immigration and Deportation following the resignation of acting commissioner Bienvenido Alano.

In an interview, Domingo stated that he will continue the CID's campaign against drug syndicates, illegal aliens, and undesirable aliens such as pedophiles. It will be recalled that several complaints have reached the CID office regarding the entry into the country of homosexuals without proper travel documents. It has been 2 years

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since the CID deported nine pedophiles from Pagsanjan. However, some of those deported have reportedly returned to the country. Domingo asserted that she would not tolerate such incidents. [passage omitted]

Aquino Defends Appointment

HK2212114789 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 0900 GMT 22 Dec 89

[Statement by President Corazon Aquino as read by Press Undersecretary Felix Bautista at Malacanang Palace; recorded in English—broadcast in progress]

[Text] ...under study by the Department of Foreign Affairs. I repeat our support for the cause of democracy in Panama.

I will discuss the recommendation to increase the reward for the capture of Honasan and Zumel with the secretary of national defense and the chief of staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines. I do note that there appears to be a strong public clamor in favor of the proposal.

The PCHR [Presidential Commission on Human Rights] has ample powers to prevent the anticipated whitewash of human rights cases. And I believe this anticipation has no basis.

With respect to the Prudente case, there is no way the prosecution can be impeded by the NBI [National Bureau of Investigations] director without holding himself liable for the obstruction of justice. Moreover, the prosecutors, both public and private, are not under the NBI and they possess coercive powers beyond the reach of the NBI. I appointed General Alfredo Lim because I believe he can do a good job in that office. Let us give him a chance.

Senate Overrides Aquino Veto on Military Cases

HK2212114989 Quezon City GMA 7 Radio-Television Arts Network in Tagalog 1030 GMT 22 Dec 89

[From the "GMA News" program]

[Text] The Senate opposed President Aquino's veto of a consolidated bill for the return to civilian courts the trial of offenses committed by members of the Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP] and the Integrated National Police.

Senate President Jovito Salonga said he will call for a Senate caucus to draft a formal opposition to the veto. In her veto message, the president said it was recommended by Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos and AFP Chief Renato de Villa. The president also certified an alternative bill. According to her, the recent coup attempt was not taken into consideration in the consolidated bill.

Military Official Comments on Coup Attempt

HK2012110389 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 20 Dec 89

[Santolines denote passages in English]

[Text] Rebel soldiers who took part in the failed coup attempt led by renegade Colonel Gregorio Honasan received cash payments as well as promises of promotions. This was confirmed by Brigadier General Oscar Florendo, who also said that most of the rebel soldiers brought to hospitals had crisp bills in their pockets. Trainees who took part in the coup also said that they were given a 3 months' bonus and 1,000 pesos in addition to promises of being made regular troopers if the coup succeeded.

Gen Florendo added that they have received a report on civilians and businessmen who supported the rebel soldiers, but he declined to go into details.

Let us listen to a statement by Gen Oscar Florendo:

[Begin recording] [Florendo] We have our suspicions, /but the Armed Forces is not ready to come out with names because we still have to complete our investigations and the gathering of evidences. Maybe at the right time and when the proper evidences are there and the proper facts are there, the commission appointed by the president should be the one to come out with these./

[Taru] Many reports are coming out to affirm that the coup was not only cause-oriented, but apparently cost-oriented as well.

[Florendo] /Again, with that, our evidences are/ ...[changes thought] For instance, at the Makati Medical Center, we were confronted with an innocent question. The people claimed to be stupefied that rebel soldiers brought there had crisp bills in their pockets. So, that is one sign of money changing hands. Second, those captured or who surrendered, /specifically trainees and those captured by the 203d Brigade under General Cunanan, /admitted that they received a bonus payment consisting of 3 months' salary plus another 1,000 pesos. They were also promised more if the coup succeeded. /And the trainees were promised that they will be made regular enlisted men./

[Taru] A military report allegedly said that the military officials in the coup were paid large amounts.

[Florendo] We have received such reports, /but still, we don't see the exact evidence./ Therefore, let us leave it to the investigators. [end recording]

Meanwhile, some of the rebel soldiers will be court-martialed, while others will be charged with rebellion before the court. This was announced by Brig Gen Oscar Florendo, who added that RAM [Reform the Armed Forces Movement] leaders, including Brigadier General Jose Comendador, General Marcelo Blando, Colonel

Rafael Galvez, and others will be court-martialed, while those who have been expelled from the military will be tried in civilian courts.

[Begin recording] [Florendo] Those still in the military /or who are still in the active service,/ including Gen Comendador; Gen Blando; the rangers like Galvez, Gojo, and others, will be tried in military courts. But former Colonel Legazpi and others will be tried in civilian courts. /So, I would imagine that/ it would be appropriate for a civilian court to try Legazpi because he is already a civilian. But the offense he committed in 1987 as a member of the Armed Forces will have to be tried in the military court.

[Taruc] Gen Florendo, one reason our people are concerned is because the military appears to have made few arrests, while there are more coup participants this time.

[Florendo] We will clarify the issue. /As far as we can see it right now/ actual participants number about 3,000. [end recording]

At the same time, Gen Oscar Florendo, chief of the Armed Forces civil relations services, also dismissed reports of more coup attempts as mere rumors. Earlier, renegade Colonel Gregorio Honasan had claimed that his group may assassinate President Aquino, Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos, and PC [Philippine Constabulary] chief Major General Ramon Montano in their next coup attempt.

Meanwhile, Florendo admitted that the failed coup attempt was led by Gringo Honasan and Brigadier General Jose Maria Zumel.

[Begin recording] [Florendo] We now have several reports /and most of them are rumors. Definitely, they are rumors./ After this armed attempt by Honasan and Zumel, they are well aware of their failure and are now resorting to psychological operations in order to scare the people and try to cast doubt on the government's ability to rule. But they have no idea of the /strength and the will of the Armed Forces,/ which is committed to protecting the government no matter what happens.

[Taruc] You mentioned the names of Honasan and Zumel. Are the military authorities certain that they were the leaders of the coup attempt?

[Florendo] Yes, we are very certain about this, even if he did not show himself. That is really his job—to talk and hide and not show his face. As General Abadía remarked, Honasan should come out and prove himself man enough to confront the issues. [end recording]

In a related development, it was revealed that the country's military leaders never proposed the declaration of martial law to President Aquino. Instead, according to Brig Gen Oscar Florendo, some civilian officials made such recommendations, but not Secretary Fidel Ramos, nor Armed Forces Chief of Staff General Renato de

Villa. Florendo also said that they, too, oppose the declaration of martial law because of the bad experience under the Marcos regime.

[Begin recording] [Florendo] That was never on our mind. It never even crossed our mind. /Most of the time, I would say, 80 percent of my time was spent with General Ramos, Gen De Villa, and the staff at the GHQ [General Headquarters], and it never even crossed our mind to call for declaration of martial law./

[Taruc] It was not discussed?

[Florendo] No, it was not discussed. As a matter of fact, calls for declaration of martial law allegedly came from some civilian officials, one or two, and some other civilian people. But it never crossed our minds because our experience under martial law was disagreeable. [end recording]

Gen Florendo also asserted that every sector has its role to play in society, but it should remain true to our country and the Constitution.

[Begin Florendo recording] Each sector has its own role. For instance, the media has the role of reporting the news and telling the truth, regardless of who gets hurt. /provided it is the truth and it is a fact./ The people have a right to know. That is right, and we agree. In the same manner, the military has its own role. Perhaps the reason we failed to detect this coup is because /we were very much in... giving our attention to the problem of the CPP-NPA [Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army] in connection with our role to protect the government and the people from the CPP-NPA./ That is our role. /But there is a higher, I think, responsibility that all of us, as citizens of this country, must look into, and our individual role should give way to a higher responsibility, a civic duty to be loyal to the country and to the Constitution. [end recording]

Article Examines Loyalty of Armed Forces

Part One

HK2012080189 Manila *THE MANILA CHRONICLE*
in English 19 Dec 89 pp 1, 8

[By staff member Alan C. Robles; first of two parts]

[Text] According to former national telecommunications commissioner Jose Luis Alcuaz, after the coup attempt he went around talking to sources in the military.

When he asked them for their opinion of the failed coup, he said many replied, "Sayang, muntik na; sayang, mabagal." [Too bad, it almost materialized; too bad, it was slow.]

"The sentiment is, there were a lot more loyalist troops who were sympathetic to the rebels," claimed Alcuaz, who was sacked as NTC [National Telecommunications Commission] chief a few weeks ago when he called on

President Aquino to institute reforms in their Government as rebel soldiers were hatching another coup plot.

An officer who declined to be identified said that at the height of the crisis, many government soldiers were "a few steps and minutes away from becoming rebels."

As to why they stayed loyal, Alcuaz has an answer: "Because they listened to their officers."

His assertion contrasts with the Government position that loyalist troops stayed loyal because of their adherence to the Constitution and to civilian rule.

What Alcuaz's anecdote suggests is that many government troops remained loyal not out of dedication to principle, but because they had to follow orders.

Curiously, this was the same reason given by the rebel rank and file as to why they became rebels to begin with—their officers led them.

The rebel leaders well knew, and were apparently exploiting, the main institutional vulnerability of the Armed Forces of the Philippines—a personalistic command structure. In a crunch, many Filipino soldiers will respond not to the call of the flag, but to the call of their commanding officer.

The more popular the officer, the stronger will be the response.

According to Defense Undersecretary Eduardo Ermita, "ang training ng sonda [the soldier's training] (in the AFP) [Armed Forces of the Philippines] touches on both understanding organization and chains of command, and what the role of the AFP (defend the Constitution) is."

"I'd say the first dominates the second."

A former AFP vice chief of staff, Ermita explained most Filipino soldiers believe that "by following the chain of command, they're following the purpose of the AFP."

Perhaps illustrative of this is Camp Aguilano's prompt commendation of government troops who remained loyal to the Constitution and to the chain of command.

It is possible on the other hand that some loyalist soldiers fought their mutinous comrades for abstract reasons. One source told the CHRONICLE, "Some were saying, 'if we allow this to happen, banana republic tayo, [we will be a banana republic] pag Pinayagan natin do, [if we allow this to happen] where will this stop?' Also, he said, while many loyalists may have agreed with the issues raised by the rebels, "what they did not agree with was the means of reform."

Still, it is likely that a lot of the maneuvers and confrontations that took place during the coup were initiated by units responding to officers' commands. As Ermita said, "if your CO (commanding officer) tells his subordinates, 'I want the men assembled at this place at 0700 hours, what will they do?' He suggested that this could

have been the basis for the explanation of captured junior officers who said, "Dinala Kami ng CO, eh." [We were brought by the CO]

The rebels displayed a shrewdness in their planning. The biggest maneuver unit in the AFP land forces is the battalion, what the battalion commander says, the sub-units obey.

The rebels approached battalion commanders and persuaded them to turn against the Government. One staff officer, asked why he hadn't been approached by rebel officers, replied dryly, "they only approached those officers who had men."

That limits the question to what segments the rebels used to persuade officers to fight the Government. This is where there is some controversy.

The Government's position is that the coup was an affair staged by a monarchist minority, led by Marcos loyalist soldiers and RAM (Reform of the Armed Forces Movement) renegades who were paid large sums of money by politicians and businessmen.

But one officer who used to be with RAM disagrees. He thought the coup attempt may have been "a general outburst of sentiment na ano ba ang nangyayari sa gobyerno?" [i.e. What is happening to the government?]

"There are two factors here," he explained. "First, they felt they were expressing the AFP's sentiment against corruption and politics. Second, I'd like to believe some of them were trying to preempt the *Weiga ng Bayan* [nationwide strike]. They thought of the Cuba scenario where mass action preceded Communist takeover."

According to the officer, "ang daming napakagaling na sumali." [many good ones joined] and implied that so many good officers, "the best and the brightest," would not have joined for such a base reason as monetary reward.

It's an interesting point, and gives some insight into the military thought process.

All the same, when the fighting started the rebels didn't just thrust to the "justice" of their cause their bid to sway Government forces to their side. They also used the chain of command.

Ermita recounted an episode where a group of Scout Ranger recruits turned up at Camp Aguilano. It turned out they had been ordered to go there and were supposed to be rebels.

"We almost bombed them," Ermita said. But since they were facing outward, defensively, they were left alone. They spent a lot of their time lying in the grass, idling, even when fighting was taking place at another part of the compound, which must have been surreal. According to Ermita, "we even fed them... afterwards we rounded them up and returned them to the custody of their officers."

At the same time the rebels tried to give the impression of powerful allies. Ermita noted how "their immediate propaganda line was that (defense secretary) Ramos and (chief of staff) De Villa had joined them... but I think the AFP leadership has shown its loyalty more than once, more than twice."

What worked for the rebels worked for the Government. According to the officer quoted earlier, the loyal troops stayed loyal "because of the chain of command; a lot of the people believed in the issues the rebels raised."

What the coup may have also shown, at least for a while, was that the second loyalty of soldiers after chain of command, is to their comrades. Soldiers stuck to soldiers.

A source insisted that the rebels actually wanted to preserve military unity. They mustered a show of force, but didn't actually start shooting Government troops at once. "They were trying to persuade each other to give up."

The disparity in forces may not have meant much at the start. While it is true that the rebels accounted for only 2

of the AFP's strength, the total number of men on both sides who figured in the crucial actions actually accounted for less than 10%. As one source said, "if you're a rebel, the more you increase the number of fence-sitters, the greater your chances of winning."

The form seemed to be for both sides to impress each other with their strength, without having to fight. Hence the propaganda about Ramos and De Villa. And possibly, the calling out of units that didn't know they were supposed to be rebels. According to Ermita, 40% of the rebels surrendered without having fought at all.

Another interesting point is that rebels may have miscalculated. First they thought the Philippine Constabulary would join them because of the PC's long-simmering conflict with noisy politicians behind the phase out of the Constabulary.

Second, push came to shove, and fighting had to be done. There is any number of reasons for why this happened, the loyalty of the government forces held out against rebel blandishments, or the rebel propaganda failed, and they were shown to be hopelessly weak, a revelation which may have been reinforced by the American planes' flyover. Or, as was said earlier, perhaps the loyal forces agreed with the rebel issues but disagreed with the means.

This doesn't detract from the acts of government troops. As Ermita properly points out, "we are happy that the great majority of the AFP stood pat... the great majority of the soldiers believed in the chain of command."

All the same, the coup indicated interesting new patterns: while it showed the AFP to be, as the cliche goes, factious and politicized, it may have done so in ways not expected before.

Part Two

198.701.708/189 Manila 1988 MANILA CHRONICLE
in English 20 Dec 89 pp 1, 7

[By staff member Alan C. Robles, second of two parts]

[Text] The armed forces of the Philippines (AFP), thrown into disarray by the recent coup attempt, is trying to repair the damage by launching a process which it has termed as "consolidation."

Consolidation is being carried out currently in three ways: loyalty checks and low-level shake-ups to weed out any rebel sympathizers, pep sessions to recruit the minds of those who had been misguided by rebel leaders, and outright prosecution of captured mutineers.

Whether or not this strategy will work to prevent further coup attempts or successfully address the root causes of military restiveness is an open question.

But two recurrent conditions have emerged to once again be the focus of public concern: the politicization and factiousness within the Armed Forces.

The first roughly translates into soldiers becoming aware of their potential to play the leading role in the nation's political life and taking matters into their own hands. The second describes a military organization ridden with cliques.

Consolidation does not appear to deal with both problems extensively, at least not in the short term. Worse, the military apparently looks at the restiveness as an attitude problem that can be solved by indoctrination.

According to Defense Undersecretary Eduardo Ermita, "the defense secretary and the chief of staff have ordered an intensive dialogue of commanding officers with their subordinate officers, to strengthen the conviction that the AFP is the defender of the people, and to explain what might have swayed the rebels" in staging the coup.

But consolidation is nothing new: the AFP has been doing it since 1986.

Ermita himself said, "we thought we'd successfully consolidated after 1987." And one officer pointed out that "the leadership thought things were all right... but some sentiments were raised again, ang lahat, eh." [They were deeply rooted]

This view contrasts with that of AFP General Headquarters, which holds that the last coup was caused by moneyed provocateurs. Or as Ermita told the CHRONICLE, "pag-aagustong ang mga sun-dalo." [the soldiers were provoked to gamble]

Ermita has an analogy for the failure of previous consolidation efforts. "Even a new building can still be attacked by termites."

But it seems unlikely that coup sessions will solve politicization and factionalism, and the last coup has shown disturbing twists in these factors.

For instance, the most commonly cited rift in the AFP is that between the regulars and the reservists ("four-digits" and "sweepstakes," after the number of digits in their namesakes). Regulars, specifically those from the Philippine Military Academy, are supposed to have an "old boys" network of privileges reserved by reservists, who comprise the majority of the corps.

Previous coup attempts were almost entirely conducted by regular officers, one reason why the August 28 putsch failed was that reservists didn't join in.

(December 1 was different. Of 31 rebel Marine officers, only six were from the PMA. [Philippine Military Academy] "Ang daming sweepstakes" [there are many reservists] said the officer quoted above.)

Another twist is the revelation that the coup was staged by the Reform the Armed Forces Movement and Marcos loyalist officers—two factions which fought each other in the previous regime. Thus, plus the involvement of many reservist officers, suggests that factions in the military are not fixed, but changing, even opportunistic (the bizarre alliance with Marcos officers does no good to RAM's [Reform the Armed Forces Movement] alleged idealism).

But the officer cited preferred to see the alliances as proof that the issues are so strong that they unite factions.

"I think it's gone beyond unity or diversity, makabagong malalim ang issues. Hindi ko masakyan." [The issues are profound, they are beyond me.]

He implied that far from decreasing, politicization in the ranks has been increasing, and blamed it on a defective Government.

"Basically the issues are graft and corruption and inefficiency, uba na ngayon. [now it is too much] It was a case of desperation."

"Everybody expects the military to do everything for them. Politicians have a say in confirmations, in appointments, in the use of military transport."

And, he asked, "How can you tell the sergeant or lieutenant in the field not to do certain things when they see everyone else doing it and getting away with it?"

Ermita conceded that graft and corruption were real issues, but said the coup leaders just used these "as something that would catch attention."

Also, he said, the issues have been magnified: "This policy of transparency shows a lot of graft, and gives the impression that nothing is being done about it."

The question is whether these impressions can be addressed by indoctrination sessions. Commissioners

have already compared RAM to a virus which can't be returned to its bottle. The same applies to the problem of politicization.

Former telecommunications commissioner Jose Luis Alcuaz has a different perception of the military.

He claimed that "the AFP is intact, it's a little disunited but any day it can unite and take over, and this could be within a time frame of three months."

Alcuaz said he based his assessments on "fact, science and art—gut feel and supernatural sources." His background in communications equipment suggests more mundane techniques. At any rate, he told the CHRONICLE that what is involved here is not just a "sick" military: "We are dealing with a sick society and government. We're more polarized than ever before."

Clearly, the problems of the military can't be dealt with by the AFP alone. The Government also has its share to do. As Ermita put it, "Government shouldn't rock the boat too much, we must have a moratorium on purely political matters and show the soldiers that the civilian leadership manifests support."

The failed coup has already won the AFP concessions it couldn't get earlier: the soldier's subsistence allowance has been raised, budget cuts in the military have been restored, and the confirmation of military appointments has been magically unblocked. Some say that Philippine Constabulary Chief Maj. Gen. Ramon Montano is suddenly a shoe-in for the top position in the proposed Philippine National Police.

These, in effect, are admissions of the military's strength. Alcuaz pointed out that "in the Philippines, all coups have succeeded to the extent that they have destabilized the Government."

Whether the military will make what its implicit influence explicit partly depends on the results "consolidation" products.

Ermita said that the reformist philosophy of RAM will disappear "once the core group is arrested; they have the mystique."

However, while weeding out their rebels and their sympathizers may get rid of those who supported this particular coup, it doesn't mean it will take care of all coup plotters.

According to Alcuaz, "the Holy Spirit tells me that there will be five more coup attempts...it's possible the next may succeed, but there'll still be another one anyway."

He said the likelihood of the next attempt pushing through depends on whether or not "the military gets a lot of concessions."

Aicuaz said, "I call this (Dec. 1) the small coup." He claimed that the reason loyal soldiers stayed loyal was that "this is a small coup—the big coup will be composed of 70,000 men."

It seems likely that the rank and file will continue to act out of loyalty to their officers, and not to the Constitution. The decisive battle, therefore, will be that for the minds of the officers. In a "small" coup, this would be at the battalion and brigade level; in a "big" coup, it would be at much higher command levels, involving much bigger formations.

What this all means is that the country's stability ultimately depends on the loyalty of a few men—those occupying the highest levels of operational command. In other words, popular high-ranking officers who have a chain-of-command power base, or a large following among the soldiers. In such a context, the term "Cory's generals" may have genuine, if worrying, significance.

Reforming the personalistic command system may lessen the risk. Indoctrinating the troops on adherence to principles is a very real, and crucial, need. Soldiers loyal to the Constitution may hesitate the next time their officers tell them to attack Malacanang.

In his book *Coup d'état*, Edward Luttwak points out that "some states are so well organized that the 'machine' is sufficiently sophisticated to exercise discretion, according to a given conception of what is 'proper' and what is not, in the orders that it executes."

Whether mere indoctrination without the benefit of civilian example will succeed is an open question.

Left's Reaction to Coup Attempt Analyzed

HR.2012143189 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE
in English 17 Dec 89 p 14

[By Alex R. Magno]

[Text] Or many cadres of the revolutionary Left groups, the first week of December, 1989 must have seemed like February 1986 all over again.

A political crisis exploded in the streets of the metropolis. The protagonists were equally hostile to the revolutionary movement. The confrontation was swiftly and decisively resolved before the revolutionary forces could take full stock of the situation—and intervene in the political outcomes in any significant way.

The recurring pattern is too obvious to overlook: the dramatic maneuvers of other political forces always seem to catch the revolutionary Left on the wrong foot. By the time they regain their poise and finally move their forces, the revolutionary left groups seem to march off-beat.

In the snap elections of 1986, the revolutionary Left called for an electoral boycott, labelling the exercise a noisy but meaningless affair. When an insurrectionary

momentum began building up in the aftermath of the election, Marcos tried to snuff the revolutionary Left forces found difficulty re-entering the main arenas of popular struggle.

Events moved quickly in the streets. The Marcos dictatorship was overthrown with little credit accruing to the insurgents. The red flags were in the side streets when the yellow banners swept through the main avenues of political life and into the portals of power.

In the coup conspiracy of November 1986, circumstantial evidence suggest that cynical Right-wing conspirators tried to bait the forces of the radical Left into a diversionary disturbance by brutally murdering labor leader Rolando Olalia. The still unidentified perpetrators of the crime apparently anticipated a wave of outrage to sweep the streets and provide unwitting cover for coup maneuvers.

In January 1987, gunmen fired mercilessly into a crowd of militant farmers at Mendiola bridge, killing several protesters. The massacre occurred in the context of widespread talk of a coup conspiracy brewing. The link between the massacre and the conspiracy could not be discounted.

The August 1987 coup attempt led by Col. Gregorio Honasan was initiated a day after militant Left groups successfully closed down the city with a general strike. The coup maneuver clearly took into account the disturbance caused by mass protest actions led by the Left.

This December's coup attempt nearly coincided with a *Weigang Bayan* (general strike) called to protest the increase in oil prices that went into effect on November 29. The leaders of the *Weigang Bayan* called off the protest action—for obvious reasons—the day after the coup effort started.

It is, of course, very unlikely that the conspirators of the radical Right and the insurgents of the radical Left collaborate in a deadly political waltz. What is more likely is that the actions and responses of the radical Left have become so predictable that radical Right adventurers manage to time their own maneuvers, using their worst enemies as a diversionary ploy.

It will be recalled that spokesmen of the militant labor movements had threatened to call a general strike one day after fuel prices are increased. The labor leaders could not call the strike on December 1 as planned to the disappointment of the military adventurers who were able to stage their own "strike" on short notice.

The coup effort that broke out in the first hours of December 1 found the forces of the radical Left as surprised as others. But organizational disposition and political orthodoxy more seriously hampered the revolutionary Left.

The CPP [Communist Party of the Philippines]-led political formations are geared for waging a "protracted people's war" along a strategy of "surrounding the cities

from the countryside." The major political confrontations of the last four years have, however, occurred in the cities, involving swift maneuvers and quick political mobilizations.

The CPP-led mass movements are not oriented toward urban uprisings and the bulk of the revolutionary armed forces are situated in the far-flung regions where, as strategic orthodoxy dictates, "the enemy is weakest." The revolutionary strategic orthodoxy militates against urban-centered political and military skirmishes.

From 1986 onward, the radical Left has exhibited a decreasing ability to bring large numbers of people to the streets and coordinate mass actions over a wide area. The effective anti-Marcos united front where the radical Left was able to play a prominent role broke up during the run-up to the snap elections of 1986.

The period from the Edsa [Española de los Santos Avenues] uprising to the present saw a downturn in the mass movement in general and the open organizations led by the radical Left in particular. The student movement, traditionally the most effective base for mass street action, suffered the most dramatic decline. Without an effective radical student movement, the forces of the revolutionary Left are not able to gather large numbers of participants in street action on short notice.

The December coup attempt caught the radical Left at a moment of great organizational difficulty. A succession of arrests decimated the senior leadership of the revolutionary movement and seriously dislocated the political apparatus of the under-ground Left. With its leadership in retreat, the radical Left was not prepared to quickly position for political initiative in an hour of great political crises.

Historically, the revolutionary movement, with its dispersed leadership, poor mobility and inadequate communication network, has had difficulty taking advantage of otherwise favorable tactical situations. Its cumbersome decision-making process and decentralized political organization has confined the leadership of the revolutionary movement to tasks like giving general guidelines and broad directives. Although a clandestine organization, the CPP has little conspiratorial finesse and even less inclination to play fast-paced political games.

The armed units of the radical Left are dispersed and incapable of quick redeployment. In both number and armament, these armed units have little means to alter the trajectory of major political crises. As pitched battles raged in Metro Manila, a number of NPA [New People's Army] units, apparently at their own initiative and without central direction, took the opportunity to attack isolated AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] outposts. The guerrilla initiatives appear intended only to acquire arms for the revolutionary fighting forces rather than create a significant political impact on the turn of events.

The political orthodoxy of the revolutionary Left also poses an additional hindrance on their ability to assert significant presence in the last drama.

The CPP-led forces and the more moderate Left-wing political formations have been engaged in a fundamental debate during the last three years over the nature of the political arrangement now in place. The moderate Left-wing political formations celebrate the opening of "democratic spaces" as a consequence of the Edsa uprising and commit themselves to the defense of this "transitional" arrangement as a step towards the realization of "popular democracy."

The CPP-led forces, on the other hand, have maintained a radical revolutionary posture against what they term as the "U.S.-Aquino regime." Their political program calls for the armed overthrow of this regime.

The political orthodoxy of the CPP concludes that the "U.S.-Aquino regime" is a fully-consolidated Right-wing establishment obligated to American imperialism. The moderate Left political formations, on the other hand, contend that the post-Edsa state is a nebulous, unsteady liberal arrangement threatened by Right-wing forces.

The CPP-led forces have denounced the other Left-wing groups for "reformism" and even political opportunism. The orthodoxy about the nature of the Aquino Government that they uphold, however, has often run smack against the facts of recent political experience.

If the Aquino Government is, indeed, a fully consolidated Right-wing arrangement, how are we to explain the Right-wing threats to its continuance? The earlier coup conspiracies hatched by militarists against Government had been blithely discarded as sideshows orchestrated by the Americans to keep their main puppets in line. In the caricatures drawn by the radical Left, the militarist conspiracy was the stick that the U.S. used to make the Aquino Government behave: the conspiracy's intention to seize power was at best unserious. Its actions were carefully calibrated by the strings held by the imperialists.

The coup attempt of December 1 has undermined the credibility of the causal explanation preferred by the CPP-led forces. The "puppets" of U.S. imperialism were actually engaged in deadly battle. The life of the Aquino Government was put on the brink of extinction. The mutinous soldiers have adopted a Right-wing nationalist posture, underscored by threats to American presence in the archipelago.

Fortunately for the CPP political orthodoxy, U.S. fighter planes flew into the fray. At least one part of the orthodoxy survived the carnage: the claim that the Aquino Government was dependent on American support.

Because of its political orthodoxy, the CPP-led forces found themselves in a dilemma while the crucial battle

for Manilla raged. They could not bring themselves to the side of a government that was fighting for its life. The revolutionary movement intends precisely to overthrow this Government by force—even as the mutineers of the RAM (Reform the Armed Forces Movement) nearly beat them to the task.

Neither could the CPP-led forces support the militarist adventurers, even as the rebel officers vowed to expel the U.S. bases from Philippine soil. There was a fundamental ideological cleavage between the social revolutionaries and the reactionary putschists that could not be bridged by a single issue. Leaders of the coup conspiracy had, after all, indicated they would apply a fascist, "Indonesian solution" to the Left-led insurgency.

The CPP-led forces tried to crawl out of this dilemma by concentrating on a peripheral aspect of a crucial political battle: they denounced "U.S. intervention" in internal Philippine affairs. By doing so, they avoided the central political question that was at stake in this war: the survival of a popularly-endorsed Government in the face of a violent grab at power.

Even on this peripheral point, the CPP-led forces were overtaken by the conservative politicians of the Nacionalista Party and the crackpots of the "Filipinism" movement. For a moment, they joined in irrelevant chorus as the majority of Filipinos fought back an armed fascist threat.

In the first hours of the coup attempt, liberal cause-oriented groups and Left-wing organizations hurriedly formed an alliance opposed to the militarist power grab. This alliance, Kilus (Action), tried to mobilize popular resistance to the coup effort and pledged to actively resist governance by a military junta in the event the conspiracy succeeded. The CPP-led forces, for reasons of political orthodoxy, did not participate in this rare opportunity for rebuilding the broad progressive united front that once enjoyed great mobilizing capability in the waning years of the Marcos dictatorship.

As the smoke of battle cleared, the Aquino Government sought a firmer handle on the situation by asking Congress for emergency powers. The CPP-led forces have shifted their campaign from the denunciation of "U.S. intervention" to opposition to the grant of emergency powers to a beleaguered presidency.

The same forces who took no significant action to help roll back the fascist threat now claim to stand for civil liberties as they warn that the grant of minimal emergency powers to the Aquino presidency is only a step away from dictatorship.

The CPP's political orthodoxy has succeeded in keeping the revolutionary forces outside the decisive arenas of popular political struggle. At this moment, the same orthodoxy appears as a formula for political irony.

Hunt for Civilian Supporters of Coup Reported

HK2212110789 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog
0900 GMT 22 Dec 89

[Report by Jonathan Cristobal from Camp Crane]

[Text] Authorities are stepping up efforts to hunt for two civilian supporters of the aborted coup attempt. The two men, identified by military intelligence as Danny Cruz and Jun Hizon, were seen joining the rebel side during fighting with government forces along Coastal Road, Paranaque in taped video reports. Cruz and Hizon are both members of exclusive gun clubs, with Cruz belonging to the Bureau of Customs Gun Club, and Hizon, the Capitol Gun Club.

According to military investigators, the video report proved the military's charge that many civilians were involved in the coup attempt. Video footage shown on the television program "Focus" will be used as evidence against the two men. If captured, the two men can point to the wealthy financiers of the coup, said the military.

It was learned that Danny Cruz is a nephew of a retired military officer known only as General Cruz. He is also a security aide of Jackie Enrile, and once served in the same capacity in the office of Senator Juan Ponce Enrile when the latter was still minister of national defense. Based on the video footage, Cruz was apparently wounded during the fighting. [end recording]

Envoy Says NDF Intensifying Campaign Abroad

HK2012051189 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE
in English 20 Dec 89 p 1

[By staff member Tess Villanueva-Derringer]

[Text] The underground National Democratic Front (NDF) is intensifying its efforts to undermine the Aquino Government and is now capitalizing on the bad publicity generated by the failed Dec. 1 coup attempt, Ambassador to Bonn Bienvenido Tan said yesterday.

Tan, who is currently in the country, told reporters that Communist Party founder Jose Maria Sison, who is now in Europe, has been quoting opposition Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile's statements and local news reports that put the Aquino Administration in a bad light. The Government earlier cancelled the passport of Sison, who according to the military has reassumed the chairmanship of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP).

The NDF maintains its international office in Utrecht, the Netherlands. The office is headed by NDF-International Representative Luis Jalandoni.

In a related development, another foreign affairs official said the West German based Aktions Gruppe Philippinen (Agphi) reportedly plans to serve as a bridge between the NDF and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in the Federal Republic of Germany. Government officials earlier claimed that the NDF, which is the

umbrella of 18 underground organizations, has been tapping foreign NGOs for funding.

Agpao is expected to put out in its publication 'Pintig' the NDF's 15-point program and communicate this to as many groups as possible, the DFA [Department of Foreign Affairs] official added.

Tan said the bad publicity the country is getting abroad has made it more difficult for Philippine officials to convince prospective investors to invest in the country.

"Their (foreign investors) number one question is the country's political stability," the ambassador said.

As this developed, Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus and the Foreign Information Council (FIC) which he heads will be meeting in a few days to try to rehabilitate the image of the country abroad. The FIC's members include representatives from the departments of trade, tourism and the Philippine Information Agency.

Manglapus, however, said "I don't think the country's image has slumped to zero" (as a result of the coup attempt).

He expressed hopes that his appearances on national television would help in rehabilitating the country's image abroad but that the President "is still our best spokesperson.

"I hope she can get as much coverage as possible abroad," he added.

15 Rebels, Others Killed in Quezon Clash

HK2712114789 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 27 Dec 89

[Text] The Philippine Army's 31st Infantry Battalion led by Colonel Dumacot clashed with an undetermined number of New People's Army (NPA) rebels in Barangay Matanag, Atimonan, Quezon. This took place at 0700 today. The Southern Luzon Command reported that eight Civilian Armed Forces Geographical Unit operatives, four military men, 15 NPA's, and a civilian were killed in the 20-minute encounter.

Official Claims Communist-Criminal Alliance

HK2212095989 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 22 Dec 89

[Text] Capital Regional Command [Capcom] commander Alexander Aguirre revealed the formation of an alliance between communist rebels and criminal elements. He claimed that the alliance was discovered following a military investigation into the attack of a military detachment in Bulacan Province recently. General Aguirre claimed that the raid was undertaken by communist rebels and members of the Tin-Tir gang.

Here is Capcom commander General Aguirre.

[Begin Aguirre recording in English in progress] ...have also undertaken counteractions. As a matter of fact, I am glad to tell you that the attack on the Dagat-Dagatan detachment has been solved. We arrested some six suspects. It is a combination of the Tin-Tir gang and some NPA [New People's Army] connections. These people attacked our detachments, killing seven of our men. And so, we are continuing our counteractions. [end recording]

De Villa Denies Threatening Media Clampdown

HK2012045589 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 20 Dec 89 pp 1, 9

[By Fe B. Zamora]

[Text] Gen. Renato de Villa, Armed Forces chief of staff, yesterday denied having threatened to clamp down all media which he charged with supporting the failed coup attempt early this month.

"I do not recall making any formal statement to anyone (on media closure)," De Villa said during a dialogue with publishers, editors and columnists in Camp Aguinaldo.

"I think we have not gone to the point yet," he added.

But De Villa admitted having recommended to President Aquino in a letter dated Dec. 6 the military take-over of certain media outlets during crisis situation.

"I have a set of recommendations that was developed in our headquarters and it was submitted to Secretary Ramos. But it did not name the INQUIRER or anyone. It did not prescribe the process," De Villa explained.

Defense Secretary Fidel V. Ramos, who was present during the dialogue, said De Villa's letter to the President, which was leaked to the media, "was only recommedatory" and still subject to legislation.

"Who is General de Villa and who is Secretary Ramos to initiate the closure of media corporations?" Ramos said.

Mutinous soldiers launched on Dec. 1 the most serious coup attempt against Ms. Aquino, and placed Metro Manila in a virtual war zone.

The putsch was amply covered by the media, but the military was apparently not so pleased with the coverage.

At the height of the coup, De Villa castigated several print and broadcast journalists, whom he accused of favoring the rebels.

De Villa called for the dialogue amid reports that the military was ready to crack down on media as part of Proclamation 503, which placed the country under a state of national emergency. Proclamation 503 was declared at the height of the coup attempt.

About 40 publishers, columnists, editors and reporters from various Manila-based dailies attended the dialogue.

Also present during the dialogue were Maj. Gen. Manuel Cacanando, chief of the Army; Maj. Gen. Jose de Leon, chief of the Air Force; Maj. Gen. Ramon Montaño, chief of the Constabulary and Rear Adm. Carlito Cunanan, flag-officer-in-command of the Navy.

The **INQUIRER** was represented by Editor-in-Chief Federico Pascual and columnists Belinda O. Cunanan, Ninez Cacho-Olivares and Larry Henares.

The newsmen, however, refused to be appeased by De Villa's pronouncement on a no-media crackdown.

Max Soliven of the **PHILIPPINE STAR** said the situation reminded him of the days prior to the declaration of martial law in 1972.

Soliven said then President Marcos assured them that there would be no arrest or detention of newsmen if martial law was declared but two weeks later Soliven and other newsmen were rounded up.

Ramos assured him: "President Aquino is not President Marcos. General De Villa is not General (Fabian) Ver and I am not (Defense) Minister Juan Ponce Enrile."

The ongoing "battle" between the military and the media is universal, said Soliven. "The military always wants to keep things secret. But the media regards nothing as secret."

MANILA STANDARD columnist Emilio Jurado chided the military for insisting that the media should rally to support the government during emergency.

"That is not our role. The duty of the reporter is to report facts and events without fear or favor. Can you imagine if Philippine media had rallied to defend Marcos at EDSA?" Jurado said.

NEWSDAY publisher Francisco Tatad stressed on the media's primary role to inform the public of the government of the real situation.

Reacting to question on media responsibility in revealing the statement of retired Brig. Gen. Rodolfo Canieso, chief of the National Intelligence and Coordinating Agency, Tatad said: "It is not for us to censor his statement. We feel that it is of utmost importance that the problems should be known."

Canieso had told a Senate hearing of another coup attempt within the next six months.

The military regarded the publication of such sensitive data as destabilizing to national security.

Ninez Cacho-Olivares delivered a direct message to the military by saying: "We are journalists. We are not soldiers."

Editorial Assails Government Press Restrictions

HK 2112044189 Manila **PHILIPPINE DAILY GLOBE** in English 21 Dec 89 pp 1, 4

[Editorial: "Fire the Cabinet"]

[Text] Her own national security adviser described Mrs. Aquino's survival of the last coup as barely "by the skin of her teeth." As teeth are skinless, it was quite a close call. Mrs. Aquino says that money was the main motivation for the coup. She is probably right, although to this day there is no evidence to prove it. Yet, unquestionably, Mrs. Aquino's government was not attacked between December 1 and 9 by bundles of money—not by bundles of newspapers—but by elite units led by some of the finest officers of the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines]. Her problem therefore is the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

The AFP cannot bring itself to unite behind her or her Defense chief and his designated Chief of Staff. The reasons for this are unfathomable as Mrs. Aquino has supported every corrective measure suggested by her Defense chief, measures entirely consisting of appeasement of restive officers, on the one hand, and fearful concessions to the AFP on the other. This tack has only invited contempt.

It is a measure of Mrs. Aquino's and her Defense chief's frustration over their failed efforts to unify the Armed Forces that official anger is now directed at the media. Yet, the media did not mount the coup, quite the contrary, it tried to forewarn of a coup in December.

During the coup, certain radio stations maliciously aired rebel propaganda and irresponsibly revealed government and rebel positions. But the print media gave balanced and comprehensive reports of the previous day's fighting. To a man, the newspapers—with the exception of an unread publication distributed gratis—declared themselves flatly against the rebellion and in favor of the Constitution and the duly constituted government. Even if some of them could not resist scoring the corruption and incompetence that had encouraged the military to believe a coup would not be resisted. As these actions hardly constituted assistance of any value to the ongoing rebellion, the governing's disproportionate anger at the media can only be described as psychotic. But not incomprehensible.

The reason for the misdirected anger is obvious. The Aquino government is afraid of the Armed Forces. It knows it exists now only by the military's sufferance. It might seek wider popular support through internal reforms, it might encourage the media to further denigrate the pecuniary motives of the rebels even if media cannot bring itself to praise a hopelessly incompetent government so given to lying. Instead, the administration has decided to add to its many enemies in the Armed Forces the hostility of the press. Mrs. Aquino is correct that there is no love lost between the newspapers and her, certainly not now—with the exception of a

Marcos cagy publication which figured prominently in the cover-up of her husband's assassination.

But she might have considered that the enemy of her enemy might be an ally, even if not a friend, in the face of a common threat. The media know they are finished under a military government.

Who has advised Mrs. Aquino to take this foolish course of abandoning strong allies and making more enemies, we know. First her fears. Mrs. Aquino has taken the counsel of her fears and found the object of them totally beyond her power to exercise—the Armed Forces of the Philippines. Second are the Cabinet, who have offered the media as an alternative target. They have their own reason.

The Cabinet want to stay until 1992, in the face of intense public disgust. This is clear from the incredible remarks of a certain Ping de Jesus—a Marcos devotee at one time—that the contempt in which the Cabinet are held is attributable only to their habit of hiding the tiny flame of their alleged accomplishments under the tangled bush of their indisputable incompetence. The Cabinet know they can do nothing about the public's dissatisfaction with them, but they can do something about the expression of the general frustration, and that is to muzzle the press. It is the intention of the Cabinet to persist in their follies, but this time unhampered by media criticism. This is the compromise solution they have offered the President for the remainder of her term in lieu of a direct and definitive resolution of the Armed Forces crisis. In brief, a life of quiet impotence. The sacrifice of the Constitution's greatest guarantee—free speech—seems to the Cabinet a small price to pay for being allowed to complete with Mrs. Aquino their ignoble tenure.

We understand their desire, but regret to say we cannot help them. They should resign. All of them, especially Sedfrey Ordóñez who cannot restrain his ignorance from expressing itself either in commentaries on press freedom or on the exclusive prerogative of Congress to subject the Vice President to impeachment proceedings, regardless of how the Executive Branch might regard the sufficiency of the evidence. Especially when the Executive Branch had prodded the Congress to initiate it.

The press has its own authority from which it draws not only the untrammeled right to inform and comment, but also the inexorable duty not to be intimidated—and that is the Constitution. Malacanang's press guidelines will be treated for what they are, an insult that will be repaid in kind. We saw the PHILIPPINE FREE PRESS and the MANILA TIMES shut down by an evil and brilliant mind in 1972, we will not see the end of press freedom for the convenience of the hopelessly stupid.

If Mrs. Aquino wants an alliance with the media and the wide public, she should fire her entire Cabinet first. That is the correct first step, not luncheons with generals who have lost their grip on themselves.

Marcos Said Negotiating Cases With Government

HK2112100589 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company
DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 21 Dec 89

[Text] Ferdinand Bongbong Marcos Jr and Irene Marcos Araneta reportedly held negotiations with government lawyers regarding the cases filed against the Marcos family. Here is Deo Macalma, Mobile Unit 7, with the details:

[Begin recording] [Macalma] The Marcos family is now holding negotiations with government lawyers regarding the cases filed against their family.

Solicitor General Frank Chavez today said that Mrs. Marcos' lawyers earlier talked to the lawyers of the Department of Justice on 9 to 12 December in Los Angeles and San Jose, California. Chavez stressed that the negotiations could only continue if Mrs. Imelda Marcos pleads guilty to the charges of mail fraud and obstruction of justice, and the family discloses all their wealth in this country and in other countries. Mrs. Marcos was not present during the initial negotiations, but Ferdinand Bongbong Marcos Jr, Irene Marcos Araneta, Gregg Araneta, Mrs. Fortuna Marcos Barba, and their lawyers were present. Here is Solicitor General Frank Chavez' statement:

[Chavez in English] I confirm that several meetings were conducted in the United States with the lawyers of Imelda Marcos, (Jaime and Van Koch). I also confirm that during those meetings, only the lawyers for the Philippine Government and the lawyers of Marcos, and the lawyers of the Justice Department conducted the negotiation. We were only there as observers. Also present during these meetings were Bongbong Marcos, Gregg Araneta and his wife Irene, and Fortuna Barba.

I will not go into details but the main tract of these series of meetings was to find out the possibility of Imelda pleading guilty to at least two of the charges, particularly on mail fraud and obstruction of justice, and also the possibility of her making full disclosure of all the assets of the late former president, including the assets that they are holding now for themselves, on a global basis. Also the possibility of her being meted the suspended sentence by being placed under probation for at least during the time that President Aquino is president of this country.

[Macalma] The Marcos family has been given up to 12 January 1990 to respond to the government's offer. If they do not answer the offer, the hearing against Mrs. Marcos on 13 March 1990 will proceed.

Chavez said that if the hearing against Mrs. Marcos continues, there is a great possibility of her being imprisoned in the United States.

Meanwhile, the government has recovered over \$2 million of Marcos' ill-gotten wealth from a bank in Switzerland. Chavez said that the recovered amount, which was deposited at the Union Bank of Switzerland, was handed

to President Aquino today. The stolen wealth was reportedly deposited in Switzerland by Mr Marcos under the Philippine Sugar Commission, previously headed by former Ambassador Roberto Benedicto. [end recording]

Senate Debates, Approves Final 1990 Budget

HK2212041989 Manila *THE MANILA CHRONICLE* in English 27 Dec 89 pp 1, 7

[By staff member Johanna Son]

[Text] The Senate worked overtime last night to approve on third and final reading the proposed P230.91 billion budget for 1990, hours after Senate Minority Floor Leader Juan Ponce Enrile withdrew participation from the chamber's debates.

Voting with only Sen. John Osmena abstaining, the Senate effectively cut P2.59 billion from the original proposal of P233.5 billion made by President Aquino and passed intact by the House last month.

The budgetary cut represents the following deductions: P1.34 billion from the programmed portion now down to P130.7 billion, and P1.25 billion from the unprogrammed funds totalling P23.2 billion.

The conflicting versions of the bill pave the way for the meeting of a bicameral conference committee headed by Sen. Nepali Gonzales and Rep. Rolando Andaya (Camarines Sur).

In its version of the budget bill, the Senate provided P1.269 billion for the increase in the armed forces subsistence allowance, as well as adjustments needed to comply with the salary standardization law.

The senators said they expected the joint panel discussions to center on two contentious local autonomy provisions: the House-created Countryside Development Fund (CDF) and the National Assistance to Local Government Units (Nalu).

The House had slashed to P5.7 billion the original P13 billion internal revenue allotment included in the Nalu, and with the difference created a P2.3 billion CDF.

For its part, the Senate heeded pleas from local officials and restored the revenue allotment to P10 billion, and pruned the CDF to P1.3 billion.

The Senate version also adopted proposed cuts introduced by lone oppositionist Enrile who later said he was begging off from further debates, including the conference committee meetings. He said he would not want to be charged with "filibustering" on the budget.

In reply to Enrile's "very generous" gesture, finance committee chairman Gonzales said he was "deeply appreciative" because it would allow the Senate to facilitate approval of the bill.

Enrile's move drew strong remarks from his colleagues who denied they were muzzling the lone minority senator. Enrile's action contrasted sharply with his behavior yesterday morning, when he started on introducing amendments line-by-line through the more than 1,000-page budget bill.

"No one can be accused of suppressing the minority," stressed Sen. Ernesto Maceda, who said senators only wanted to find ways by which to speed up arduous debates on the measure. "There is no attempt or hint of anything like that," echoed Gonzales who also said he was "saddened" by Enrile's decision.

Maceda stressed that the chamber was perfectly willing to consider Enrile's amendments—many of which had been accepted in the morning—but in a quicker manner. He pointed out that if Enrile planned to introduce 1,000 different amendments and wanted 23 senators to vote on each one, "he would not finish for a week."

Japan Finalizes \$37 Million Food Grant

HK2212041989 Manila *BUSINESS WORLD* in English 22 Dec 89 p 2

[Text] The agriculture department's food and livelihood programs received an added boost yesterday when the government of Japan finalized a grant assistance package amounting to \$36.6 million. The grant comprises \$20.9 million under the increased food production program and \$15.7 million for the Philippine Rice Research Institute (Philrice).

Under an agreement signed by Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus and Japanese Ambassador Tsuneo Tanaka, part of the grant package will be in the form of fertilizers and pesticides which shall be monetized by the Department of Agriculture (DA).

Mr Tanaka reiterated Japanese Premier Kaifu's assurance that "Japan will continue to extend as much support...as it has done to date for the efforts of the Filipino people towards consolidation of democracy and economic recovery."

DA Secretary Carlos Dominguez said bilateral relations between the two countries "go beyond a donor-recipient relationship."

"We value Japan's role as an important market for our bananas, tuna and mangoes," he said, expressing the hope, with a glance at the direction of Japanese officials, "that Japan will open its market to our papayas, too, by next year."

The agreement stipulates that the Philippines will be given four years to monetize the grant "starting from the time the commodities are made available." It has been noted that in the previous years, the Philippine Government has been successful in utilizing the entire amount of the peso funds generated by the grant.

SOUTHEAST ASIA

DA's National Agriculture and Fisheries Council will be used as the marketing conduit which shall sell the fertilizers and pesticides to the private sector at prevailing market prices.

Aside from supporting the food production programs of the department, the proceeds from the fertilizer grant will also fund the Livelihood Enhancement for Agricultural Development projects of the department.

Meanwhile, Secretary Carlos Dominguez revealed that the National Food Authority Council has decided to rationalize, through a lottery, the distribution of the 100,000 metric tons of corn to be imported for next year.

Mr Dominguez said he has received complaints from independent poultry and livestock groups that they have been treated "unfairly" as earlier import allocations were generally cornered by the integrators and other big groups belonging to the Philippine Association of Hog Raisers, Inc.

The agriculture department said allocation of corn has not been systematized due to lack of cooperation by the industry in informing the Government of the correct poultry and livestock population.

Thailand

Deputy Prime Minister Submits Resignation

8K2712134089 Bangkok Army Television Channel Five in Thai 1300 GMT 27 Dec 89

[Text] Here is an update on the resignation of Deputy Prime Minister Phichai Rattakun. It says the deputy prime minister signed a letter of resignation and had it delivered to Prime Minister General Chaschai Chunhawan. There is no information as to whether or not the prime minister has accepted the resignation.

The same report also said that Phichai Rattakun sent a letter to each Democrat Party cabinet minister explaining the reason for his resignation and assuring them that he will continue to perform as head of the Democrat Party. More details will be reported as available.

U.S. Urged To Respect Vatican Embassy

8K2712104389 Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 27 Dec 89 p 8

[Editorial: "Ceausescu-Noriega"]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] A situation which occurred just before the event in Romania was the U.S. invasion of Panama to establish a new government and try to capture General Manuel Noriega. But Gen Noriega reportedly escaped and eventually took refuge in the Vatican Embassy. The U.S. force has surrounded the Vatican Embassy and insisted that Gen Noriega must be put on trial in the United States on charges of narcotics trafficking.

A noteworthy point is that the U.S. invasion of Panama is a political issue. As Gen Noriega wielded great power in Panama, formation of a new government must receive his consent. Therefore, the U.S. invasion which toppled Gen Noriega and enabled a new Panamanian Government to be established is a political act more than anything else. The statement that the objective of the invasion was to arrest Gen Noriega is just a cover to justify the U.S. invasion.

For this reason, Noriega, who has taken refuge in the Vatican Embassy, should be given political refugee status, and it is appropriate for the embassy to refuse to hand him over to the United States. If the United States wants to extradite Gen Noriega, it would be better for it to request this from the new Panamanian Government, which it recognized only recently. It would be better to do this than to encircle the Vatican Embassy, which appears to be an act of intimidation.

The U.S. Embassy in Tehran was invaded after the Shah was toppled. We hope the United States will not resort to the same indecent act by invading a foreign embassy. We appeal to the United States to respect the privileges of a foreign diplomatic mission for the sake of sanctity of the relevant law. If the Vatican Embassy decides to send Gen Noriega to another country for political asylum, the United States should allow it to happen in the same way that China allows Fang Lizhi to take refuge in the U.S. Embassy in Beijing.

Paper Doubts U.S. Ability in Heroin Suppression

8K2412134589 Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai 25 Dec 89 p 3

[Editorial: "America Loses the Heroin War"]

[Text] The speech that U.S. Ambassador Mr Daniel O'Donohue delivered on 20 December in Bangkok to members of the American Chamber of Commerce in Thailand should be regarded as a statement that rocks the world. It could have really shocked the whole world if the statement had been made at a press conference, because the ambassador admitted that the United States is being defeated in the heroin suppression war.

Despite the U.S. envoy's use of a flowery language similar to that of U.S. Secretary of State James Baker in describing Thailand an inseparable partner of the United States, it was still sad when the ambassador revealed that the United States is being defeated in the heroin suppression war in Southeast Asia.

Such a remark is quite discouraging for the authorities of the antimarcotics organizations of the United States and Thailand, where countless proportions of budgets have continuously been allocated for heroin suppression over the past decades. About 40 to 50 percent of the heroin sold in the United States are said to be from Thailand. Worse than that, 80 to 85 percent of heroin distributed

in New York is delivered from Southeast Asia through Thailand, as major heroin production sites are located in nearby Burma.

The United States cannot retreat from drug suppression. Otherwise, the world will feel that President George Bush is surrendering to and allowing the vicious elements to dominate the world. If a superpower that had been in the forefront of fighting against such vicious elements gave in to satanic-type heroin traffickers, what would be left for the world civilizations created by our forefathers?

We feel that President George Bush has somewhat disappointed the world for not seriously helping Colombia fight against the major cocaine traders, whereas the Europeans and Japanese have moved to deter investments in their countries with the money of the cocaine Mafias, regarding it as dirty money. At a time when Colombia has nearly fallen because of these Mafias, the United States announces it is being defeated in the heroin war in Southeast Asia.

It is no wonder that the prestige of the United States is deteriorating so much in many regions that even the cocaine Mafias have publicly announced an offer of U.S. \$750 million award for the head of President George Bush.

Prime Minister To Push for Expanded Cabinet

BB2212005189 Bangkok *THE NATION* in English
22 Dec 89 pp 1, 2

[Text] Prime Minister Chatchai Chanthawan said yesterday he will push for a constitutional amendment next year to increase the number of ministries, which the opposition sees as a prelude to a Cabinet reshuffle to ease tensions within the ruling coalition.

Expounding on a keynote speech delivered at a seminar on Law Reforms for Developments at Chulalongkorn University yesterday, the premier told reporters he would consult with his fellow Chat Thai members to identify the bloated ministries which should be split up.

"I strongly feel that such a constitutional amendment should be proposed in the next Parliamentary session," he said. Parliament is scheduled to sit again in May but the Opposition is campaigning for an extraordinary session to grill the administration on corruption and ineffectiveness.

Chatchai abruptly ended the interview when asked about a possible Cabinet reshuffle, which would be necessary if there was an increase of ministries. The Constitution now restricts the number of Cabinet portfolios to 44 with all posts currently occupied.

Opposition solidarity MP for Nakhon Si Thammarat, Channi Sakset, later criticized the proposed constitutional amendment as a way to allow more government

MPs to take up newly-invented Cabinet posts subsequently easing the growing pressure within some coalition parties.

"This will not help improve the efficiency of the present administration. An increase in Cabinet portfolios could backfire on the government's effectiveness as it would lead to more conflicts of interests between ministries," he said.

"This government has always resorted to increasing the manpower, as with the police force, which has so far failed to come up with anything new to protect the public," he said.

However, Channi said that oppositionists have yet to decide whether or not to support the constitutional amendment.

"We have to study the reasons thoroughly first," Channi said.

In his speech at the university's Faculty of Law, Chatchai said it was high time the present 13 ministries, which were established in 1892's bureaucratic reforms, should be re-examined and reorganized to keep pace with the changing environment.

Since the reforms a century ago, the situation inside and outside the country has changed dramatically, he said, citing the political upheavals in Eastern Europe as the latest example.

Some ministries, bureaus and departments have become bloated, other agencies are duplicating similar work, while some related units are now under different ministries, he said.

He added that unnecessary departments should be dissolved, redundant agencies be merged and relevant units be re-grouped under the same ministries.

"It is an urgent task and it must be done with the least cost even though we may have to amend the Constitution to increase the number of Cabinet posts so that the reforms can be accomplished before the centennial celebration of the administrative reforms initiated by HM King Rama V (in 1892)," Chatchai said.

Hinting that the constitutional amendment may also be geared to tackle corruption, Chatchai proposed a revival of the Parliament's inspector general post, briefly introduced in 1974's short-lived Constitution.

The post would be part of the mechanism to crack down on corruption in both the executive branch and within Parliament, he said.

Another anti-corruption measure is an across-the-board increase in the salary scales of permanent officials whose present legal earnings are hardly enough to feed their families, he said.

Moreover, the bureaucratic and political system must be made to be "more open" to allow for accountability on what officials and politicians do, he said.

But the premier also defended the government against the accusation that corruption was more widespread under this government than ever before.

"Many have been talking about corruption much so that the public tends to point the finger at the political system. But corruption is a social problem not simply stemming from the political system. It is in any country, be it developed or socialist and in Thailand it has existed for a long time both under dictatorial and democratic governments," he said.

Foreign Ministry Approves Policy Readjustment

BA2312020089 Bangkok *THE NATION* in English
23 Dec 89 p 2

[Text] The Foreign Ministry's policy committee yesterday approved a readjustment of policy underscoring the ministry's intention to upgrade its role in Thailand's economic development amid dramatic changes in the world.

The committee endorsed a working paper of the ministry's committee on the economy, which is aimed at facilitating an expansion of existing foreign markets and exploring potential markets now emerging, an informed source said.

The policy committee, however, did not discuss a plan to split the ministry's Political Affairs Department into four regional departments covering Asia, Europe, America and Africa/Middle East, which had been expected yesterday.

The source said the plan would be discussed later by the policy committee and added that the plan was "necessary" because it would support the ministry's policy changes.

The economic committee's working paper calls on the Foreign Ministry to look into potential economic markets in Eastern Europe where barriers against free trade with the noncommunist world are crumbling.

The paper says the opening of the Thai Embassy in the Hungarian capital, Budapest was a step stone towards increased trade with Eastern Europe.

The paper calls the situation in the Middle East "promising", despite current tensions. It says Thailand can expand trade with the region as well as Africa.

The source said the paper contains "strategies" in dealing with particular countries but declined to give details.

He said these would be discussed during a five-day conference starting on Monday with Thai ambassadors and consuls in 32 European, African and Middle East

countries. Foreign Minister Sittithi Sawettsila, who chaired yesterday's meeting, will preside over the conference.

The upheavals in Eastern Europe and the planned unification of European markets in 1992 will top the agenda.

The conference will focus on coordinating the diplomats to implement the ministry's readjusted policies and in coping with new global trends.

The diplomats will also be informed of economic developments in Thailand and will travel to Rayong to visit the Eastern Seaboard Development Programme and the multi-billion baht petrochemical project. The 60 envoys and consuls will also have an audience with His Majesty the King.

Guest speakers invited to the conference include Finance Minister Pramuan Saphawas, Khosit Pampamrat, deputy secretary-general of the National Economic and Social Development Board and PM's (prime minister's) Office Minister Kon Thappharangsi.

Daily Views Australian Proposal for Khmer Peace

BA1912094489 Bangkok *THAI RAT* in Thai
19 Dec 89 p 5

[Editorial: "The United Nations and Cambodia"]

[Text] Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans' new peace proposal for Cambodia has received great interest from many concerned parties. It is noteworthy that, among them, Hun Sen—premier of the Phnom Penh government—and the Vietnamese Government have shown that they are interested in the proposal.

The Australian minister proposed that Cambodia be placed under a UN administration pending the election of a new Cambodian government, following the recent example in Namibia. Under the supervision of an international organization, all the parties involved in the civil war in Namibia agreed to a cease-fire, thus paving way for the general elections and establishment of the country's independence.

For Phnom Penh and Hanoi to accept the role of the United Nations in the settlement of the Cambodian problem would be regarded as an admirable, positive development. In the past, Phnom Penh and Hanoi have denied a UN role in the Cambodian issue. They did not even agree to have a UN committee verify the Vietnamese troop withdrawal from Cambodia in September. As a result, the international community has not yet recognized the pullout.

When denying the UN role, Phnom Penh and Hanoi claimed that the world organization was not truly neutral, but sided with the tripartite Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea (CGDK) by recognizing the government of the Cambodian resistance and its UN seat for more than 10 years. Phnom Penh and Hanoi, therefore, did not believe that the United Nations would

perform its duties in a neutral and fair manner in resolving the Cambodian conflict.

Prince Norodom Sihanouk, leader of the CGDK resistance faction, has also expressed his interest in the new proposal made by Australia, but still opposes the idea of vacating the Cambodian seat in the United Nations, because it would mean the CGDK having to forsake the seat it has possessed for more than a decade.

The Australian foreign minister made this proposal at a time when the efforts to settle the Cambodian problem had suffered a setback, following a failure in the latest Paris international conference on Cambodia. At the Paris meeting, the leaders of the Cambodian resistance and the Phnom Penh regime failed to reach an agreement on the formation of a quadrupartite interim government in Cambodia under the leadership of Prince Sihanouk.

In a possible next round of informal meetings between the leaders of the four Cambodian factions in Jakarta, if an agreement is really reached regarding the UN role, it will be another step of progress for peace in Cambodia. Once all the parties accept the UN temporary administration of Cambodia, there will be no need to discuss the conflicting issue of forming a four-party Cambodian interim coalition government to oversee the general elections.

Vietnam

'Braven' U.S. Attack on Panama Criticized

8K2212160189 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
0015 GMT 22 Dec 89

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] According to foreign sources, on the morning of 20 December U.S. troops, with air support, attacked the headquarters and many military camps of the Panamanian Self Defense Forces and Panamanian Air Force installations around Omar Torrijos International Airport. U.S. airborne troops from various military bases in the Canal Zone moved into downtown Panama City where they met with resistance from the country's self defense forces. It is reported that U.S. troops occupied the National Assembly building, Panama TV Channel 2 and the Marriott hotel, one of the largest in the capital city.

Speaking over the radio, a spokesman for the ruling Panama Revolutionary Democratic Party, PRD said: General Noriega, the head of the government and commander of the self defense forces, has called on the people to fight the U.S. aggressors. Immediately after the invasion, a clandestine radio located on a U.S. military base in the Canal Zone broadcast a communiqué from Guillermo Endara, leader of a U.S.-backed opposition faction, declaring himself to be president of Panama. Meanwhile, the United States decided to close the Panama Canal.

This U.S. invasion took place a few days after the United States falsely charged the Panama self defense forces with shooting dead an American officer and wounding another. This invasion is the climax of a policy pursued by the United States over the past few years with the aim of suppressing the Panamanian people's thirst for sovereignty and removing obstacles to the U.S. ambition of prolonging its occupation of the Panama Canal through nullification of the new treaty on the canal signed between General Torrijos and U.S. President Carter in 1977.

On 20 December, White House spokesman Fitzwater said in Washington that President Bush himself ordered U.S. troops to move into Panama to capture General Manuel Antonio Noriega, who is well-known for his determined stand to defend Panama's sovereignty over the Canal Zone. The United States falsely accused General Noriega of drug trafficking and ordered his capture for trial in the United States.

General Torrijos, architect of the new treaty on the canal, had also faced similar U.S. slander. He died in a very mysterious plane accident on 31 August 1981.

In the past 70 years or more of controlling the strategic Panama Canal, the United States earned hundreds of millions of U.S. dollars per year. The Pentagon's Southern Command is also based there with 12,000 well-equipped troops to guard the important Caribbean sea.

The 1977 Torrijos-Carter treaty stipulates that the United States return the Canal Zone to the Panamanian people on 31 December 1999. Thus, time is not with the United States in its scheme to perpetuate its occupation of the Canal Zone. Whereas, time is with the Panamanian people in their determination to achieve national independence and sovereignty.

Worried about the prospect of losing their source of illegitimate income, Washington has gotten mad at the Panamanian people's struggle for sovereignty over the Canal Zone, which is rallying all of the people's forces, including the Panama self defense forces, and which is turning into an anti-U.S. movement in the country.

With this direct military intervention, the U.S. Administration wants to install a lackey government in Panama loyal to U.S. interests.

The U.S. military intervention in Panama has created a very grave situation. This is totally inconsistent with the current international trend of solving all disputes and conflicts through peaceful negotiations.

This brazen U.S. military intervention has been and is being met with strong public protest. Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega said: Nicaragua has been placed under a state of maximum alert in the face of the U.S. intervention in Panama. The UN Security Council has

held an emergency session to look into the U.S. intervention and has demanded an immediate U.S. withdrawal from Panama. On 22 December, a spokesman for the Soviet Foreign Ministry issued a statement demanding that the United States immediately stop its military intervention in Panama, and considering this a violation of the UN Charter.

Vo Chi Cong Receives Italian Foreign Minister

AA.2612155189 Hanoi VNA in English 1514 GMT
26 Dec 89

[Text] Hanoi VNA December 26—Council of State President Vo Chi Cong received visiting Italian Foreign Minister Gianni Michelini and his entourage at the presidential palace here this morning.

President Vo Chi Cong welcomed the Italian minister and highly valued the results of his visit to Vietnam. He expressed his wish for further developing the friendly and cooperative relations between Vietnam and Italy.

Gianni Michelini expressed his satisfaction at the success of the visit, and his confidence in the development and broadening of the cooperation between the two countries in the time to come.

Earlier, Italian Foreign Minister Gianni Michelini and his party, who arrived here on Sunday (24 December), paid a floral tribute at the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum and visited the late president's residence and office in Hanoi.

They held talks with Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach during which the two sides discussed measures to strengthen the cooperation between the two countries, and international and regional issues of mutual concern. The two foreign ministers signed an intergovernmental agreement on economic, scientific and technical cooperation, and a statement on the two governments' desire for cultural cooperation between the two countries. They also discussed measures to implement that agreement.

The Italian guests also met with the Vietnamese ministers of external relations, and agriculture and food industry and a representative of the Ministry of Aquatic Products.

On Sunday night, the Italian guests attended the Christmas celebrations at the Hanoi cathedral.

The Vietnamese and Italian foreign ministers called a press conference here this afternoon on the result of the visit, which, they said, marked a new, important step of development in the relations between the two countries.

The Italian guests left Hanoi this afternoon for Ho Chi Minh City, and will leave the city tomorrow morning, concluding their four-day official friendly visit.

Chatthai's Foreign, Domestic Policies Hailed

BB2312152289 Hanoi International Service in Thai
1130 GMT 22 Dec 89

[Station commentary]

[Text] Respected listeners, 1989 is a very significant year for Thai Prime Minister General Chatthai Chutshawan because it is a year that the Thai Government, under the leadership of Prime Minister Chatthai, has met with considerable success in the implementation of its policy for administration of the country, in both foreign and domestic affairs.

On the administration of domestic affairs, it is noticeable that since the beginning of the government administration, Chatthai has improved the country's economy with a very high economic growth rate of 10-11 percent. In 1988, the total Thai export value was more than 400,000 million baht. In 1989, the total Thai export value will be more than 500,000 million baht. In 1988, the average income per capita was \$1,000, while in 1989 it has risen to about \$1,400. On investment, in 1989 the Thai Cabinet approved investments in about 500 projects worth about \$760 million in all and which have created about 300,000 jobs.

Gen Chatthai's implementation of policy contributing to such a high economic growth rate has made people in Thai society accept his government. A public opinion survey shows that 80 percent of the residents of Bangkok admire the present prime minister more than any of the former Thai prime ministers.

Besides the administration of internal affairs, in 1989, Gen Chatthai also conducted various forms of constructive diplomatic policy. While expanding Thai relations with the other ASEAN countries, the United States, Japan, and Western European countries, Chatthai paid extraordinary attention to relations for peaceful coexistence with Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia.

As a matter of fact, the previous Thai Governments often implemented a policy of military and political confrontation with and economic isolation of Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia. Although this policy was supported by a superpower, combined with influence aimed at [word indistinct] Vietnam, it has been proven that the policy was fruitless. Chatthai realizes that such a policy is out-of-date and the country does not gain anything in return. For this reason, during this year, Chatthai decided he would never follow the path of the previous prime ministers, but would implement a policy of peace and friendship with Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia—a policy of turning the Indochinese battlefield into a marketplace. Since it was first announced, the slogan for this diplomatic policy has become famous and symbolizes Chatthai.

Clinging to the slogan, Chatthai has this year conducted several constructive actions on the Cambodian problem. Chatthai invited Chairman Hun Sen to Bangkok on three occasions for talks on the Cambodian conflict and

cooperation with Cambodia. Chatchai was the person who proposed a cease-fire in Cambodia immediately after Vietnam had withdrawn all of its troops from Cambodia. Chatchai has also spent a lot of time persuading countries to participate in a third round of Jakarta informal meetings on settlement of the Cambodian problem. Another one of Chatchai's constructive actions, which has been highly praised in Thai domestic circles, is his promotion of economic development, which will lead to promoting relations and cooperation with Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia.

However, during this year, both internal and external forces, who want to subvert the three Indochinese countries, have tried in every way to obstruct Chatchai's policy.

In the past year, everyone has been interested in what Singapore has done to Thailand. While urging Thailand and other countries in this region to create tension with Vietnam, Singapore has had the highest export value to Vietnam when compared to other countries in the region. Thai public opinion asks whether or not it is true that Singapore is urging Thailand to create tension with Vietnam only for its own interests.

However, one has to accept the fact that, in 1989, Chatchai has done a lot of work for democracy and the peoples of Indochina. He has led the Thai economy to progress firmly. He has built a bridge of peace and friendship with Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia.

As the year 1989 passes by in the next few days, Thailand will be celebrating the anniversary of the administration of the Chatchai government. On this occasion, ASIAWEEK magazine comments that Chatchai is the leader of a government that comes from general elections and is expected to last longer than any other in Thai history. This is very valuable praise which Chatchai deserves and of which he should be proud. In the coming new year, if Chatchai continues to implement his policy in both domestic and foreign affairs in the constructive manner mentioned before, his government will certainly further maintain its stability.

Venture Set Up With Hong Kong in Dong Nai

BB2312090019 Hanoi DSA in English 0729 GMT
23 Dec 89

[Text] Hanoi VNA December 23—A joint venture for vehicle maintenance and tourist transport has been set up in Dong Nai Province, 50 km northeast of Ho Chi Minh City, between the Dong Nai Passenger Bus Company and the Vinagroup of Hong Kong.

Called Vinadoma, the undertaking has a prescribed capital of 1.5 million U.S. dollars. The Dong Nai Company contributes 20 percent of the capital for building a workshop and office, and Vinagroup supplies the remainder for purchasing maintenance equipment and buses.

This is the first joint venture of Dong Nai Province with a foreign company in vehicle maintenance and tourist transport.

Ukraine Provincial Delegation Visits Hau Giang

BB2312082009 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
1430 GMT 20 Dec 89

[Text] A delegation from Zaporozhye Province of the Ukrainian SSR in the Soviet Union, headed by Comrade (Vektrya), second secretary of the province's party committee, recently visited Hau Giang, Zaporozhye's sister province, to attend the 10th anniversary of Hau Giang's Vietnamese-Soviet Friendship Association. The delegation brought along gifts donated by Zaporozhye to the people of Hau Giang, among them four heavy-duty tractors and large quantities of other equipment, spare parts, consumer goods, cloth, and notebooks.

The two sides exchanged views and signed programs of bilateral economic and cultural cooperation.

Reportage on National Assembly Session Continues

Ho Chi Minh Deputies Meet

BB2312092009 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
2300 GMT 20 Dec 89

[Station correspondent Truong Cong Hoa's report on Ho Chi Minh City's National Assembly deputies' discussion of the Council of Ministers Chairman Do Muoi's socioeconomic report]

[Summary] After 2 days of work at the Ba Dinh conference hall in Hanoi, the deputies' delegations to the sixth session of the Eighth National Assembly yesterday afternoon discussed in groups the Council of Ministers' report presented by Chairman Do Muoi on the 1989 situation of socioeconomic development and the 1990 socioeconomic development tasks.

In the group meeting of Ho Chi Minh City's deputies, 10 deputies expressed their views. "All of them agreed basically to the report on the economic, cultural, and social order and security situation in 1989 by Council of Ministers Chairman Do Muoi." They all stressed that the report had reflected the real situation in the country. Labor hero Ba Thi said that "we have begun to remove the system of bureaucratic subordination which has thus far tied our hands," while Mr. Ly Chanh Trung remarked that "the Council of Ministers' report scrupulously and faithfully reflects the situation and manifests a high sense of self-criticism." Mr. Nguyen Xuan Oanh stressed, "We have successfully checked and repelled inflation without any foreign aid. This is a very great success."

Apart from the aforementioned views, the 10 deputies also voiced some concern over the assessment of the situation which focused on four points. First, the real living conditions of cadres, workers, civil servants, and

retirees, second, the level of industrial production development in the country, third, the need to pay attention to peasants' livelihood and fourth, the alarming status of cultural, social, educational, and public health activities. "Many deputies unanimously agreed that there should be a separate meeting of the National Assembly to discuss the cultural and social situation."

Group Discusses Do Muoi Report

882512154089 *Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese*
7:00 GMT 21 Dec 89

[Radio correspondent Truong Cong Hieu's report on a group discussion at the sixth session of the Eighth National Assembly being held in Hanoi; date not given—with portions recorded]

[Summary] "Dear friends: During a group discussion, 14 National Assembly deputies from the three Central Highlands provinces of Gia Lai-Cong Tum, Dac Lac, and Lam Dong discussed, in a scrupulous and careful fashion, Council of Ministers Chairman Do Muoi's report on the country's 1989 socioeconomic situation and preparations for 1990."

Over the years, despite efforts to increase production, develop the economy, and solve various cultural and social matters, "the multietnic compatriots in the Central Highlands continue to experience difficulties and deprivation. In many localities, especially former base areas, the compatriots still lack food and medicine. Cultural activities are almost nil. Grain production has increased somewhat and the cultivation of industrial crops of all types has shown some progress, but due to irrational mechanisms, inadequate investment, and market upheavals, a situation has emerged in which many of the goods that are produced cannot be sold. This has created bottlenecks in production."

All of these difficulties and obstacles have been noted by deputies from the three provinces at various collective meetings and group discussions. However, "in this National Assembly session, all of the deputies from the Central Highlands provinces have favored the fundamental points mentioned in Council of Ministers Chairman Do Muoi's socioeconomic report as well as the self-criticisms of actions by the Council of Ministers and the administration at various levels in implementing the socioeconomic policy of the party and the state. Nguyen Van Phuong, deputy from Dac Lac Province, said:

[Begin recording] "I welcome the report of the comrade chairman of the Council of Ministers. Although the assessment of the problems encountered in various localities is scrupulous, it is still not clear enough because it does not specify which sectors or which households are responsible for what problems so we can deal with them. That is what people in our locality are concerned about." [end recording]

The deputies "unanimously agreed with economic targets mentioned in the report." However, they "asked the central government to clearly elaborate on the total figure of revenue and expenditure for the Central Highlands last year so as to determine the extent of subsidies for this strategic area. The central government must have an appropriate investment policy for each economic element and promptly formulate trade and economic laws in order to avoid the situation of each acting on his own will, especially in the export domain."

A salient problem discussed by the deputies is cultural, public health, and education policies. Dr So Lay Tang, chief delegate from Gia Lai-Cong Tum Province, said:

[Begin recording] "Social welfare is a problem that we have always been concerned about. At this session, we will also discuss it carefully on the principle that the state works together with the people. In education, we attach importance to general education boarding schools with operating funds to be shared by both the central and local levels. As for public health, we are concerned about the problems of malaria, leprosy, and goiter, which are on the rise in the Central Highlands. Regarding the social welfare policy in general, as the comrade chairman of the Council of Ministers has mentioned salt, fabric, kerosene, and writing paper, I would like to suggest that we add a clause on the supply of medicine for the treatment of people's diseases." [end recording]

Looking into the socioeconomic targets for 1990, the deputies suggested elaborating on the percentage of money to be kept in reserve, for expenditure, for investment, and for debt payment so as to have a basis for budget scrutiny by the end of 1990. The deputies called for closer control over banking operations. Comrade Nguyen Xuan Du, deputy from Lam Dong Province, said:

[Begin recording] "Basically, I agree with the Council of Ministers' report on the 1990 socioeconomic tasks." However, I would like to add some points for further consultation. They consist of analyzing more deeply those difficulties to be encountered in 1990, incorporating mountain region- and ethnic minority-related tasks into the socioeconomic tasks, making 1990 the year of concentrating leadership on ironing out difficulties encountered by the state- and collective-run economic sector so as to make it possible for it to continue to play a leading role in a multisectoral economy, and investing money in developing long-term industrial crop and forestry industry. [end recording]

"As the Central Highlands is an important strategic area of the country, in the process of renovating the party and state mechanisms, it is certain that all matters relating to socioeconomic development in the Central Highlands as well as in mountain provinces as a whole will receive ever greater attention."

Group Discussions Examine Issues

BA,2412132089 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
1100 GMT 27 Dec 89

[Radio correspondent's report on group discussions at the sixth session of the Eighth National Assembly being held in Hanoi]

[Summary] "Dear friends. Over the past 5 days, the National Assembly deputies, at their group discussions, have debated the Council of Ministers' report, the draft law on trade unions, the draft press bill, and the amendments and revisions to the criminal code.

"Regarding the Council of Ministers' report, all of the National Assembly deputies unanimously agreed on the issues raised in the report and held that the report was painstakingly prepared, and was therefore able to point out all of the key issues of the current socioeconomic situation in a spirit of straightforwardness, to reflect the nation's real conditions, and to carefully analyze the subjective and objective causes. The report also manifested the Council of Ministers' spirit of serious criticism and self-criticism."

However, in their discussions, the National Assembly deputies contributed many valuable ideas for a correct path in the days ahead. One of the issues that received a warm welcome from most of the deputies was the Council of Ministers' appraisal on grain production, which exceeded the set plan norm and accumulated more surplus for export. Many deputies, however, warned that we should not be too optimistic because our nation's agriculture depends chiefly on the weather conditions. Many said that we would have incurred more serious damage if the recent typhoons had hit the rich rice region of Bac Bo Delta instead of hitting the central region, as they did.

Deputies from Phu Yen, Khanh Hoa, and Thuan Hai Provinces said we should pay more attention to stabilizing the prices of materials, fertilizer, and insecticide, while deputies from Nghe Tinh complained that the low prices for agricultural products have caused more losses to the peasants.

"The report said that industrial production output increased by 3 percent over that of 1988. However, many deputies still showed their concern because, in reality, this was only initial progress made by the industrial sector while unemployment is still acute and problems related to input and output are prevalent at various factories and enterprises. Many state-run enterprises are still operating at a loss and have not surged forward to resume the leading role."

Many deputies said measures mentioned in the report aimed at overcoming bottlenecks in industrial production were too general and that concrete regulations should be formulated to help state-run industrial establishments really resume a leading role in the economy.

Other deputies proposed that the Ministry of Finance clarify the prolonged shortfall of industrial and trade taxes collection and that the Council of Ministers strive to overcome negative phenomena in and mistakes made by the banking sector while strictly checking the foreign economic relations sector's activities, especially in granting export-import quotas.

During their discussions, the National Assembly deputies paid special attention to issues of hospital fees, tuition costs, and other social policies. They were of the opinion that, at this sixth session, the National Assembly should issue resolutions related to these issues. Deputies from Cao Bang, Lang Son, Bac Thai, and Ha Tuyen Provinces proposed that hospital fees be exempted for provinces in the Central Highlands and mountain regions.

The deputies also discussed animatedly the issue of maintaining social order and safety. Generally speaking, they welcomed the interior sector's efforts to implement Council of Ministers' Directive No 135 and urged agencies concerned to consolidate and strengthen the pure, firm nature of the dictatorship of the proletariat.

23 Dec Afternoon Session Held

BA,24122052089 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
1400 GMT 23 Dec 89

[Unidentified station correspondent "report"]

[Text] On 23 December, the National Assembly held a plenary meeting at the Ba Dinh Conference Hall in Hanoi under the direction of National Assembly Chairman Le Quang Dao after holding group discussions on the Council of Ministers' report on socioeconomic tasks and draft laws.

During its morning sitting, the National Assembly heard a number of the Council of Ministers' members read supplementary reports on some socioeconomic and budgetary issues and answer National Assembly deputies' questions. Among those who spoke were Phan Van Khan, chairman of the State Planning Commission, Nguyen Cong Tan, minister of agriculture and food industry, Cao Sy Kiem, general director of the Vietnam State Bank, Vu Ngoc Hai, minister of energy, Pham Song, minister of public health, Pham Minh Hac, minister of education, and Doan Duy Thanh, minister of external economic relations.

In the afternoon meeting, the National Assembly heard nine statements by Comrades Pham Van Tien, deputy from Ha Giang Province; Dam Van Ngay, deputy from Bac Thai Province; Huynh Van Hoang, deputy from Ho Chi Minh City; Nguyen Trong Hien, deputy from Hai Hung Province; Tran Dinh Dam, deputy from Quang Nam-Danang; Bach Hung Dao, deputy from Nghe Tinh Province; Lu Giang, deputy from Hanoi municipality; Hong Minh Kim, deputy from Cuu Long Province; and To Dinh Co, deputy from Binh Dinh Province.

In their statements, all nine deputies agreed with the Council of Ministers' report on the results of the implementation of the socioeconomic tasks for 1989. The deputies concentrated on making many concrete suggestions on development of agricultural and industrial production and on other socioeconomic fields. Most noteworthy were their assertions that the planned target of 21 or 22 million metric tons of grain for 1990 was realistic. However, they said attention must be paid to providing the agricultural sector with supplies and services such as fertilizer, insecticide, and crop protection.

Several deputies laid particular emphasis on irrigation work and crop seeds and breeder animals. Other deputies expressed concern over the electricity rates applied for agricultural production and suggested that the electric power sector continue to review this matter and pay particular attention to the management of power sources to prevent considerable loss of electricity, which had been estimated at 40 percent of the total output. They also proposed immediate cuts of electricity rates and irrigation fees in agriculture and the application of a higher power rate for daytime peak hours than nighttime. A proposal on which all of the deputies agreed was that the state should adopt a protection policy on agricultural products. Some deputies suggested that the grain reserve fund be increased, others proposed that directions be set for the development of crop planting in agriculture including long-term and short-term industrial plants.

The deputies welcomed the decision to grant agricultural tax exemption to peasants in implementation of Uncle Ho's testament. However, they suggested that no increase in agricultural tax be made in the current situation to avoid misunderstanding.

When speaking on the defense budget, several deputies proposed that due attention be given to the livelihood conditions of armed forces cadres and combatants both in active service and in retirement, and that appropriations for the maintenance of weapons and military equipment and means should not be neglected because they are precious property and affect our Army's combat readiness.

Most of the nine statements touched on the question of economization in spending, the prevention of wastefulness, corruption, and embezzlement of public property. They proposed that the Council of Ministers urgently investigate and deal with negative phenomena and losses in the banking service and actively supervise the banks' operations.

Many deputies stressed that while the economic situation tended to improve, cultural and social problems continued to cause concern and called for concerted remedial efforts.

At this afternoon's meeting, the National Assembly elected, with a high level of unanimity, Comrades Nguyen Van Tu, president of the Vietnam Confederation of Workers; Pham Bai, president of the Vietnam

Peasants Association; and Ha Quang Do, first secretary of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union Central Committee, as members of the Council of State. It also elected Comrade Do Muoi as vice chairman of the National Defense Council; and Comrade Nong Duc Manh, director of the party Central Committee Nationalities Department, as vice chairman of the National Assembly Nationalities Council.

Reflecting the renovative spirit, the deputies decided to vote again to elect a new chairman of the National Assembly Economic, Planning, and Budget Committee at a later meeting because both nominees for the position, Comrades Tran Tan and Nguyen Hoa, failed to win the majority of the votes as required by the regulations.

The National Assembly is expected to continue its work at the Ba Dinh Conference Hall in Hanoi on Monday, 25 December.

25 Dec Morning Session Held

BK2512054989 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
0500 GMT 25 Dec 89

[Text] This morning [25 December], the Eighth National Assembly's sixth session continued its work at the Ba Dinh Conference Hall in Hanoi. National Assembly Chairman Le Quang Dao directed the session.

Comrade Le Duc Anh, deputy from Hanoi, read a report on policy toward the Army. Comrades Dinh Van Gia, deputy from Ha Son Binh, Nguyen Thanh Lam, deputy from Ho Chi Minh City; Mai Thuc Lan, deputy from Ha Bac; Chu Thuy Quynh, deputy from Hanoi; Do Khac Cuong, deputy from Hoang Lien Son, Vo Hoa, deputy from Khanh Hoa; Ba Nguyet, deputy from Thuan Hai; Dang Minh Kien, deputy from Ben Tre; Nguyen Van Si, deputy from Gia Lai; Cong Tum; Pham Van Huan, deputy from Dac Lac; Hong Minh, deputy from Minh Hai; and Nguyen Van Gai, deputy from Kien Giang read their reports expressing viewpoints on the appraisal of the 1989 socioeconomic situation and on tasks for 1990.

In the afternoon, National Assembly deputies continue their work at the conference hall.

25 Dec Evening Session Reported

BK2512160549 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
1430 GMT 25 Dec 89

[Text] This evening, 25 December, the eighth National Assembly's sixth session held its plenary meeting at the Ba Dinh Conference Hall under the direction of Chairman Le Quang Dao.

The National Assembly listened to Comrade Council of Ministers Vice Chairman Vo Van Kiet's report on a number of additional issues related to the Council of Ministers' socioeconomic report and his answers to some questions raised by the National Assembly deputies concerning the orientations and tasks pertaining to the socioeconomic development program for 1990.

The comrade Council of Ministers vice chairman made a thorough analysis of the contents of mobilization of budget revenues and expenditures, stressing the need to mobilize no less than 23 percent of national production for the state budget in order to cover all expenditures. He also emphasized the great significance of efforts to practice thrift by all echelons, sectors, and localities. The comrade Council of Ministers vice chairman also dealt with a number of important issues like grain production, economic development in mountain areas, employment for the laboring people, and proper development of the labor cooperation program overseas in accordance with the present situation.

Finally, the comrade dealt with prices and suggested ways of guaranteeing rational investment on goods manufacture in order to bring about effective results for the national economy and protect the interests of producers.

More on 25 Dec Proceedings

BB.2612144989 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
1100 GMT 25 Dec 89

[Radio correspondent Dinh Khai's report on 25 December plenary meeting of Eighth SRV National Assembly's sixth session at Ba Dinh Conference Hall in Hanoi—with portions recorded]

[Summary] "This morning, 25 December, the Eighth National Assembly's sixth session held a plenary meeting at the Ba Dinh Conference Hall under the direction of National Assembly Chairman Le Quang Dao. The National Assembly heard reports by deputies from Ha Son Binh, Ho Chi Minh City, Ha Bac, Hanoi, Hoang Lien Son, Khanh Hoa, Thuan Hai, Ben Tre, Dac Lac, Gia Lai-Cong Tum, Minh Hai, and Kien Giang. The National Assembly deputies' reports focused on socio-economic and budgetary issues.

"In their reports on agricultural production, many deputies were of the opinion that the grain output target of 21.5-22 million tonnes set by the Council of Ministers for 1990 is attainable, providing that limitations and shortcomings are overcome."

Comrade Mai Thuc Lan, deputy from Ha Bac, stressed:

[Begin recording] First, we suggest that investments be made in repairing old irrigation projects. Second, the Council of Ministers should promulgate a regulation on the collection of irrigation fees in order to ensure the livelihood of peasants and the operation of farmland water conservancy companies. Third, regarding insecticides, a reserve of about 14 billion dong's worth of insecticides should be set aside for use when necessary as proposed by the minister of agriculture and food industry. Fourth, we must quickly establish a new format for advancing Vietnam's countryside to socialism as the old format of agricultural production in the north is no longer acceptable. Cooperative members do not accept a

managerial board which is concerned not with production but only with collecting taxes and setting up all sorts of funds. [end recording]

About the grain output target for 1990, Comrade Nguyen Van Gai, deputy from Kien Giang, said it should rather be set at 21 million tonnes. Had we, he reasoned, paid more attention to ensuring rice quality and invested more in storage and transportation, millions of tonnes of rice would have been saved from damage.

"In their reports on industrial production, many deputies dealt with the electricity rates for production, the exemption and reduction of taxes for producers of export goods, the reorganization of export-import activities, and so forth.

"Many deputies focused on monetary and banking issues. To overcome negative phenomena in the banking sector such as those that have occurred in 1989, a deputy called for the adoption of a law clearly defining the functions and tasks of banks; he suggested that in the meantime, the Council of Ministers issue a regulation on monetary management and strictly punish violators. Another deputy proposed the revision of bank interest rates to encourage investment and develop production."

Comrade Phan Van Huan, deputy from Dac Lac, said:

[Begin recording] First, we should quickly renovate the financial and banking mechanism in order to promote the development of all economic components and generate employment for the laboring people. A specific measure is to offer tax exemption or reduction to newly established units, new products, and export goods. Second, the budget must include funds reserved for production development loans that will be made available to all economic components. Although priority is given to the state-run sector, we cannot neglect efforts to help the private, individual, and family-based economic sectors develop and benefit the social economy as a whole.

Money, goods, and equipment sent from Overseas Vietnamese to their relatives at home constitute an important source of wealth that can be used to develop production. Therefore, we suggest that no limitations be placed on the frequency and volume of money remittances and goods sent home from overseas. [end recording]

"At this morning's meeting, many deputies raised the issue of how much of the gross national product should be mobilized for the budget. It was generally held that 21-23 percentage points, instead of 23-25 as proposed by the Council of Ministers, are reasonable."

Regarding the collection of hospital fees, many deputies were for continuing this practice, but, they stressed, it is necessary to improve the service attitude of health cadres and workers.

On the collection of school tuition, the deputies unanimously agreed to waive this requirement for level-1 schoolchildren.

"This afternoon, the Eighth National Assembly's sixth session continued its plenary meeting at the conference hall to discuss socioeconomic and budgetary issues under the direction of National Assembly Chairman Le Quang Dao. The National Assembly heard reports by Nguyen Co Thach, deputy from Hanoi; Dao Thi Bieu, deputy from Cao Lang; Nguyen Xuan Oanh, deputy from Ho Chi Minh City; Mai Huong and Vu Thi Lien, deputies from Haiphong; Luong An, deputy from Son La; Nong Duc Manh, deputy from Bac That; Nguyen Thi Nhat, deputy from Quang Ninh; Tran Van Nam, deputy from Quang Ngai; Truong Dinh Long, deputy from Vinh Phu; Le Van Hoa, deputy from Quang Tri; and Truong Ton Kha, deputy from Ha Nam Ninh."

Communiqué No 5 Issued

BK2512154589 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
1430 GMT 25 Dec 89

[Communiqué No 5 of the sixth session of the Eighth National Assembly]

[Text] On 25 December the National Assembly continued its plenary meeting at the Ba Dinh Conference Hall under the direction of National Assembly Chairman Le Quang Dao to discuss the socioeconomic situation in 1989 and the socioeconomic tasks and state budget for 1990.

In the morning and afternoon meetings, Comrades Le Duc Anh, deputy from Hanoi Municipality; Dinh Binh Gia, deputy from Ha Son Binh Province; Nguyen Thanh Lan, deputy from Ho Chi Minh City; Mai Thuc Lan, deputy from Ha Bac Province; Chu Thuy Quynh, deputy from Hanoi Municipality; Do Khac Cuong, deputy from Hoang Lien Son Province; Vo Hoa, deputy from Khanh Hoa Province; Bo Nguyen, deputy from Thuan Hai Province; Dang Minh Thien, deputy from Ben Tre Province; Nguyen Van Si, deputy from Gia Lai-Cong Tum Province; Pham Van Huan, deputy from Dac Lac Province; Hong Minh, deputy from Minh Hai Province; Nguyen Co Thach, deputy from Ha Nam Ninh Province; Tran Thi Hoa, deputy from Quang Ngai Province; Nguyen Xuan Oanh, deputy from Ho Chi Minh City; Mai Huong and Vu Thi Lien, deputies from Haiphong Municipality; Luong An, deputy from Son La Province; Nong Duc Manh, deputy from Lang Son Province; and Nguyen Thi Nhat, deputy from Quang Ninh Province, spoke and made suggestions on:

- some points of the defense budget;
- on the policies toward the Army, the cultural and artistic sectors, and the mountain areas inhabited by ethnic minority groups; the policy on small industry and handicraft development; the economization policy; and the wage policy in various production areas;
- on employment and public order and security;

—on increasing the efficiency of national economic macro-management and social management; and

—on participation in international division of labor and cooperation.

In the 23 and 25 December afternoon meetings, the National Assembly conducted elections of additional personnel to the National Assembly and Council of State.

Concerning the Council of State, the National Assembly elected Comrades Nguyen Van Tu, president of the Vietnam Confederation of Workers and deputy from Ho Chi Minh City; Pham Bai, president of the Vietnam Peasants Association and deputy from Haiphong Municipality; and Ha Quang Du, first secretary of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union Central Committee and deputy from Ha Bac Province, as members of the Council of State in replacement of Comrades Huynh Tan Phat and Nguyen Xuan Huu, who passed away, and Comrade Pham The Duyet, who asked to be relieved as member of the Council of State.

Concerning the National Defense Council, the National Assembly elected Comrade Do Muoi, chairman of the Council of Ministers and deputy from Nghe Tinh Province, as vice chairman of the National Defense Council in replacement of Comrade Pham Hung, who passed away.

Concerning the Nationalities Council, the National Assembly elected Comrade Nong Duc Manh as an additional vice chairman of the Nationalities Council.

Concerning the Economic, Planning, and Budget Committee, the National Assembly elected a new chairman in replacement of Comrade Vu Quanh, who asked to be relieved as chairman of the committee. After two ballots, both Comrade Tran Tan, deputy from Hanoi Municipality, and Nguyen Hoa, deputy from Thai Binh Province, failed to be elected because neither could obtain more than half the votes of the total number of Eighth National Assembly deputies. For this reason, the National Assembly decided to assign to the Council of State the task of designating a vice chairman of the Economic, Planning, and Budget Committee to serve as acting chairman of the committee until the next session of the National Assembly.

26 Dec Morning Session Reported

BK2612055289 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
0500 GMT 26 Dec 89

[Text] This morning, 26 December, the Eighth National Assembly's sixth session continued at the Ba Dinh Conference Hall in Hanoi. National Assembly Chairman Le Quang Dao directed the session.

The National Assembly heard Comrade Nguyen Van Tu, chairman of the General Federation of Vietnamese Workers report on draft amendments to the law on trade unions after soliciting ideas from National Assembly

deputies. Afterward the deputies continued debates on some differences in the draft law on trade unions.

The National Assembly also heard reports by Pham Minh Chanh, deputy from Dak Lak; Nguyen Van Chanh, deputy from Khanh Hoa; Vu Manh Vinh, deputy from Thai Binh; Nguyen Van Tai, deputy from Hai Hung; Quyen Sanh, deputy from Ho Chi Minh city; Phuong Kim Dung, deputy from Hanoi; Mai Van Bay, deputy from Ho Chi Minh city; Nguyen Anh Dung, deputy from Nghe Tinh; Le Trung Lan, deputy from Quang Nam-Danang; Tran Huu Phuoc, deputy from Tien Giang; Pham The Duyet, deputy from Hanoi; Pham Hung, deputy from Hai Hung; Le Van Hoan, deputy from Quang Tri; Tran Thien Tu, deputy from Ho Chi Minh city; Dang Minh Kien, deputy from Ben Tre; Hong Minh, deputy from Minh Ha; and deputies from other localities.

Communiqué No 6 Issued

BB2612152789 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
1430 GMT 26 Dec 89

[Communiqué No 6 of the sixth session of the Eighth National Assembly]

[Text] On 26 December 1989, the National Assembly held its plenary meeting at the conference hall to discuss the draft laws on labor unions and the press. National Assembly Chairman Le Quang Dao directed the meeting.

At the morning meeting, on behalf of the Committee for Drafting the Law on Labor Unions, Comrade Nguyen Van Tu, chairman of the Vietnam General Federation of Labor Unions, reported on views gathered from National Assembly deputies and proposed amendments to the law on labor unions.

The National Assembly deputies discussed the labor unions' role, functions, and duties; their participation in implementation of the social security insurance policy and system; and their participation in and supervision over implementation of the various labor-related regulations and policies.

The draft law on labor unions has been thoroughly reviewed many times. Nonetheless, the National Assembly held that major issues still exist that need to be studied more thoroughly, such as the relations between state organs and labor union organizations and between enterprise directors and grass-roots labor union organizations. The National Assembly decided to pass this draft law at its next session.

At the afternoon meeting, the National Assembly heard a report by Comrade Minister of Information Tran Hoan on behalf of the Committee for Drafting the Law on the Press on the draft amendments to the law on the press on the basis of opinion contributed by the people and National Assembly deputies.

The National Assembly deputies discussed issues related to freedom of the press, the right of the press to state management, and the authorities of editors-in-chief.

The National Assembly will continue to discuss the draft law on the press and the amendments to a number of articles of the criminal code on the morning of 27 December 1989.

27 Dec Plenary Session Reported

BB2712061589 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
0515 GMT 27 Dec 89

[Text] This morning, the SRV Eighth National Assembly's sixth session held a plenary meeting at the Ba Dinh conference hall in Hanoi. National Assembly Chairman Le Quang Dao directed the meeting.

The National Assembly discussed the draft law on the press and some amendments and revisions to the criminal procedure code.

The National Assembly heard reports expressing views on the draft law on the press from the following National Assembly deputies: Duong Huu Giao from Nghe Tinh; Ha Thi Thu Suong from Quang Nam-Da Nang; Huynh Xuan Vu from Quang Ngai; Le Van Hoan from Quang Tri; Nguyen Thanh Lam from Ho Chi Minh City; Tran Trong Tan from Quang Tri; Nguyen Viet Hung from Khanh Hoa; Ngo Ba Thanh from Ho Chi Minh City; and Phuong Kim Dung from Hanoi.

Among these deputies, eight proposed that the National Assembly adopt the draft law on the press after amendment and revision. The National Assembly conducted a voting proceeding on the four outstanding issues, namely permission for privately-run newspapers; legal and principal aspects of the press' activities; agencies responsible for appointing and relieving editors-in-chief of newspapers; authority and obligation of the press in protecting sources of information.

The National Assembly, by a majority vote, unanimously decided: First, it is not necessary to let the private sector operate newspapers, especially in our nation's present conditions. Second, before beginning operation, a newspaper must seek permission and must present its principles and objectives to be implemented accordingly. Third, in appointing and relieving editors-in-chief of newspapers, the agencies concerned must consult with the state management commission at the central level for the purpose of control. Fourth, the press has the right and obligation to maintain the confidentiality of sources, with the exception of requests made by the chief procurator of the people's organ of control and chief judge of the provincial people's court.

The National Assembly also agreed by a majority vote to adopt the draft law on the press at this session after its final revision.

The National Assembly then discussed amendments and revisions to the criminal procedure code. On behalf of

the National Assembly Judiciary Committee, Comrade Pham Hung presented some issues relating to the draft law before discussion. The National Assembly also heard reports on views surrounding this draft law by some National Assembly deputies.

Christmas Celebration in Localities Reported

BK2512070889 Hanoi VNA in English 0612 GMT 25 Dec 89

[Text] Hanoi VNA December 25—Christmas 1989 was celebrated yesterday at Catholic churches throughout the country. In Hanoi, a large number of Catholics went to the Mass at the brightly decorated Hanoi Cathedral and parish churches. An unusually warm weather favoured strolls of young people, both Catholics and non-Catholics, late into the night. The Fatherland Front delegations at all levels paid Christmas visits to several Catholic families.

Christmas was jubilantly held in the Red River delta province of Ha Nam Ninh, the largest Catholic community in the north with 600,000 faithful. The administration and mass organizations in the Bui Chu and Phat Diem dioceses have presented gifts to many elderly priests with meritorious services to the country.

Activities Commemorate Army Day Anniversary

Hanoi Army Day Meeting Held

BK2512063189 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 20 Dec 89

[Text] On the occasion of the 45th anniversary of the Vietnam People's Army [VPA] and the All-People National Defense Festival, on 19 December the Hanoi Municipal Party and People's Committees and the Capital Military Region Command held a cordial get-together with nearly 200 retired high-ranking Army cadres, representatives of families of fallen soldiers and war invalids, and representative Army heroes and heroines and seriously wounded soldiers.

Attending the meeting were Comrades Senior Lieutenant General Nguyen Quyet, secretary of the party Central Committee and director of the VPA General Political Department; Senior Lieutenant General Tran Van Quang, vice defense minister; and Pham The Duyet, secretary of the party Central Committee and Hanoi Municipal Party Committee. Many representatives of various organs of the Ministry of National Defense, the General Political Department, and heroic VPA units, and leaders of the Hanoi Municipal Party and People's Committees and various departments, sectors, and mass organizations in Hanoi were also on hand.

Retired Army Officers Celebrate

BK2412142089 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1400 GMT 20 Dec 89

[Summary] Leaders of the party, state, Vietnam Fatherland Front [VFF], party Central Committee Military Commission, and Ministry of National Defense held a cordial get-together with retired high-ranking Army cadres and officers in Hanoi on the afternoon of 20 December to mark the Vietnamese People's Army's [VPA] 45th founding anniversary and the all-people national defense festival.

"Among the attendees were Vo Chi Cong, former secretary of the Fifth Military Region party committee and former political commissar of the Fifth Military Region; Do Muoi, former political commissar of the Ta Ngan Military Region; Le Quang Dao, former chief of the Political General Department; Dong Sy Nguyen, former commander of the 559th Group taking part in the anti-U.S. struggle; Nguyen Thi Dinh, former deputy commander of the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of South Vietnam; and Nguyen Thanh Binh, former deputy chief of the Logistics General Department."

Speaking on the occasion, General Le Duc Anh, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, deputy secretary of the party Central Committee Military Commission, and minister of national defense reported to the participants on the Army's achievements and dealt with some issues in the cause of Army building in response to the current new situation and tasks. He said:

[Begin recording] Dear comrade leaders of the party, state, Fatherland Front, and mass organizations, dear comrades. First of all, on behalf of the party Central Committee Military Commission and the Ministry of National Defense, I would like to thank you all, comrade leaders of the party, state, Fatherland Front, and mass organizations, for your presence at this get-together with retired Army cadres despite your very tight work schedules due to the current session of the National Assembly.

On behalf of the party Central Committee Military Commission and the Ministry of National Defense, I thank each and every one of you, comrade retired Army cadres, especially those in poor health and those experiencing difficulty in moving about, for your presence at this cordial meeting today. [applause]

From the bottom of our hearts, we note with great pleasure that this is quite a big get-together where we can meet one another again after a long time and that most of you still enjoy good health despite your old age.

Dear comrades: The main objective of our get-together today is to meet one another and have a cordial talk. The majority of you have devoted most of your lives to serving the revolutionary undertaking in general and the cause of combat and Army building in particular. Therefore, we know that even though you have retired, you still show constant concern for and closely follow the

development of the revolution and the overall national situation as well as the situation concerning the army and national defense. [end recording]

Next, Council of State Chairman Vo Chi Cong conveyed the warm regards of the party Central Committee, the National Assembly, the Council of State, and the Council of Ministers to all army cadres and officers who are either retired or still serve in the armed forces. He expressed the hope that they would all make more positive contributions to national defense and construction. He said:

[Begin recording] Our Army was born in the revolutionary movement and has engaged in very fierce combat activities under the party's very close leadership. Our Army is determined to defend the socialist revolution and our party and people. It is our firm belief that no matter what perfidious schemes and maneuvers the imperialist forces may resort to, our party will remain united and our Army will protect the party and socialism. [applause] [end recording]

Council of Ministers Chairman Do Muoi briefed the participants on the national socioeconomic situation and said that although "countless difficulties and challenges still lie ahead, the cause of national construction will be crowned with success." He expressed the hope that all members of the armed forces, including those who are in retirement, will join hands with the entire people in national construction and defense.

Speaking on this occasion, General Vo Nguyen Giap praised the retired high-ranking Army cadres and officers for their unwavering determination to join hands with their descendants in maintaining and developing the tradition of Uncle Ho's soldiers, preserving Marxist-Leninist principles and the party's leadership, and defending the socialist regime.

Nguyen Quyet at Navy Function

BR2512094489 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
2300 GMT 22 Dec 89

[Text] On 22 December, the Navy hosted a solemn reception to mark the 45th Vietnam People's Army [VPA] founding anniversary and to receive the people's armed forces heroic titles bestowed by the party and state to its 131st Engineering Regiment, the "HQ-931" vessel, and four individuals.

Attending the function were Senior Lieutenant General Nguyen Quyet, secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Central Committee, vice chairman of the Council of State, and head of the VPA General Political Department. Comrade Le Danh Xuong, member of the CPV Central Committee and secretary of the Haiphong party committee; representatives from the Ministry of National Defense, military regions, armed branches and services, and officers and combatants of the Navy.

Rear Admiral Le Van Quan, deputy political commander of the Navy delivered a report saying that during the past 34 years the People's Navy, in firmly maintaining and developing the fine tradition and characteristics of the VPA, has overcome all difficulties and ordeals to courageously and creatively fulfill its tasks and has scored outstanding achievements, thereby positively contributing to the cause of national liberation, firmly protecting the fatherland's sovereignty at the coastal and sea areas, and carrying out the lofty international obligation.

Comrade Nguyen Quyet, on behalf of the CPV Central Committee Secretariat and the Council of State, warmly commended the Navy for its achievements in combat and other tasks and for its courageous, resourceful, and creative struggle to control the sea areas with the determined-to-win spirit. He urged the Navy to strive to develop its fine tradition, heighten vigilance, and strengthen combat readiness in order to actively cope with all activities of the enemy in the sea, especially in the Truong Sa [Spratly] areas and the southern continental shelf.

On the same day, the naval force in the fourth zone organized an all-people national defense conference. Attending the conference were many leading cadres of the party and people committees, the fatherland front committee, and mass organizations of Khanh Hoa Province and Cam Ranh District. Despite difficulties in its daily life during the past several years, the fourth zone's naval force has made great efforts in building its units firm and strong, thereby being able to meet requirements for defending the fatherland's sea areas. Combatants of the Navy have contributed greatly to maintaining political security and social order and safety in localities they stationed. Officers and combatants in the fourth zone have consistently, correctly realized the significance of the people-soldier solidarity for building and defending the fatherland.

Military Leaders Attend Function

BR2512094489 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
2300 GMT 22 Dec 89

[Text] At the Ministry of National Defense Office on 22 December, Senior General Le Duc Anh, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Central Committee Political Bureau and minister of national defense; Senior Lieutenant General Doan Khuat, member of the CPV Central Committee Political Bureau, deputy minister of national defense, and chief of the general staff; Senior Lieutenant General Nguyen Quyet, secretary of the CPV Central Committee and head of the Vietnam People's Army [VPA] General Political Department, and other comrades representing agencies of the National Defense Ministry warmly welcomed delegations from the Ministries of Interior and Foreign Affairs, the Vietnam Fatherland Front, the Hanoi party and people's committees, the Vietnam Women's Union, the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union, and the General Federation of

Vietnamese Workers who gathered to express good wishes to the VPA on its 45th founding anniversary.

Senior General Le Duc Anh, after expressing deep sentiment and sincere gratitude to the entire party, people, and mass organizations throughout the country for their care and support given to the VPA during the past 45 years, stressed: "The history of fighting and gaining maturity of the VPA has closely linked it with the national historic struggle for the cause of independence, freedom, fatherland unification, and socialism. The VPA, organized, led, educated, and trained by the party and esteemed Uncle Ho, is the Army of the people, by the people, and for the people. It has won love from people of all strata. The glorious achievements scored by the VPA are also achievements of our nation and people."

On behalf of the Military Commission of the CPV Central Committee, the Ministry of National Defense, and all VPA officers and combatants, Senior General Le Duc Anh pledged with the entire party and people that the VPA will continue to firmly maintain its revolutionary characteristics, strive to fulfill all tasks entrusted to it by the party and people, firmly defend the socialist Vietnamese fatherland, and contribute to building a more prosperous and beautiful Vietnam to be worthy of the love and confidence accorded to it by people throughout the country.

On the evening of 22 December, Senior Lieutenant General Doan Khué, on behalf of the Ministry of National Defense, held a reception to mark the VPA anniversary. Attending the function, among others, were comrades Phan Dinh Vinh, deputy head of the CPV Foreign Relations Department; Nguyen Di Nien, deputy foreign minister; military attaches of foreign countries to Vietnam; and members of the diplomatic corps.

Doan Khué Hosts Reception

BK2212154489 Hanoi VNA in English 1530 GMT
22 Dec 89

[Text] Hanoi VNA Dec. 22—Senior Lieutenant General Doan Khué, empowered by the Defence Ministry, gave a reception here this evening on the 45th anniversary of the Vietnam People's Army.

Among his guests were Phan Dinh Vinh, deputy head of the External Relations Commission of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, Nguyen Di Nien, deputy foreign minister, military attaches from various embassies, and members of the diplomatic corps here.

Earlier the same day, Defense Minister Le Duc Anh and other high-ranking officers received at the office of the Defence Ministry delegations from various ministries and Vietnamese mass organizations who came to congratulate them on this occasion.

Editorial Marks Anniversary

BK2212143989 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
2300 GMT 21 Dec 89

[Text] [Excerpt] from 22 December NHAN DAN editorial: "Uncle Ho's Troops, a Profound Cause for Our People's Pride"]

[Text] The image of Uncle Ho's soldiers is an extremely beautiful image in our society and the history of our Vietnamese nation in the new era. Organized, educated, and trained by President Ho Chi Minh and our party, and fostered, protected, and assisted in combat by our people, our people's Army has scored many glorious armed exploits, has constantly developed, and has created particularly rich military sciences and arts. It has been trusted and loved by all the people and has been praised by friends all over the world.

In the new situation of our country's vigorous development on a large scale, our people's Army is rearranging its organization to have a rational personnel strength and upgrade the level of its standardization and modernization in order to firmly defend the country's territory, aerospace, and seas, and to protect the people's creative labor while participating in economic building to help raise the troops' living conditions and stabilize the socioeconomic situation in the country.

Bringing into play the noble nature of Uncle Ho's troops, our officers of all ranks and combatants in every position have emphasized political and disciplinary training to thoroughly understand the situation in the country and the world. They have constantly improved their brilliant quality, lived healthily and modestly, unceasingly raised the level of their cultural, military, and professional knowledge; and daily beautified their lofty popular characters in their everyday life.

Party committee echelons, the administration at all levels, and social organizations have practically cared for the country's cause of national defense, have built the reserve forces broadly and strongly, and have most satisfactorily implemented the Army's rearward service policy. These are the most practical works to mobilize our beloved cadres and combatants and to commemorate the 45th founding anniversary of the heroic Vietnamese People's Army.

Paper Marks 45th Army Day

BK2512111589 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
2330 GMT 21 Dec 89

[Text] [QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 22 December editorial: "Forever Be Worthy of Being a Heroic Army That Comes From the People and Fights for the People"]

[Text] This year, our entire army celebrates the 45th anniversary of its glorious traditional day at a time when the highly eventful 1980's are drawing to a close. We have gone through a decade fraught with countless trials. The consequences of war, together with attacks and

sabotage activities by the enemy and the inertia produced by the mechanism of bureaucratism and subordination, posed serious challenges to the country. Nevertheless, it was during this very trying period that we found the way out. Although difficulties, trials, and complex upheavals are still to be encountered, our entire people—with the priceless backing of an economic system that is flourishing in a political atmosphere of openness and democracy, of the socialist system that is confirmed after passing through trials and tests, and of a well-seasoned revolutionary Army that is absolutely loyal to the party and the people—will steadily march into the 1990's with firm confidence in the bright future of the revolution.

Our army's glorious traditional day has long become a festive day of the entire country, a day on which the entire people make a show of will and strength in the undertaking to defend the country. This year, our party has instructed that 22 December is to be celebrated annually as a festival of all-people national defense, so as to reflect the concern of the party and state about the undertaking to consolidate national defense, build the Army, and defend the fatherland in the new situation. Founded and trained by the party and respected and beloved Uncle Ho amidst the rising revolutionary movement of the masses and wholeheartedly cared for and loved by the people, our Army clearly displayed soon after its founding the strength of a revolutionary army that bears the nature of the working class and the heroic traditions of the nation, and that comes from the people and serves the people.

Every difficult campaign as well as every victorious battle of the Army is closely linked with the most shining milestones of our nation's history. Our Army joined the entire people in rising up to successfully carry out the great August Revolution, smashing the domination of colonialism and feudalism, establishing the first revolutionary worker-peasant administration in Southeast Asia, successively defeating two imperialist chieftains—France and the United States—in a 30-year war of resistance, and bringing the struggle for national liberation and reunification to the apex of splendid victory. During the struggle to defend the socialist fatherland, our Army has repeatedly defeated new enemies, firmly safeguarding the fatherland's frontiers and fulfilling its glorious internationalist duty toward the two fraternal countries of Laos and Cambodia.

Our Army is not only an invincible Army but also a political Army that performs mass proselytizing well, and a productive Army that actively participates in economic development and national construction. Our Army is worthy of Uncle Ho's commendation, in which it is cited as an Army that is loyal to the party and filial to the people; that stands ready to fight and make sacrifices for national independence and freedom and for socialism; and that is prepared to fulfill any task, overcome any difficulty, and defeat any enemy.

However, with the courage of revolutionaries who dare to look squarely at the truth and make stern self-criticisms, we must admit the fact that some components and individuals in our Army have in recent years made mistakes and shown deficiencies concerning fighting spirit and ethical integrity, and violated Army rules as well as discipline relating to Army-peopple solidarity. Such cases, in spite of the difference in gravity, have weakened the prestige and tradition of Uncle Ho's troops.

The invincible strength of our Army stems from the correct and creative revolutionary line of the party and from its close bond with the people. It is also the strength of the unique military art, revolutionary zeal, and marvelous fighting skills of our Army cadres and soldiers. We always remember that all the achievements recorded by the Army during the two wars of resistance as well as during the present undertaking to defend the fatherland are inseparable from the educational and training efforts made by the party and Uncle Ho, from the protection and care of the entire people from the faithful rear-guard line, from the successes in national construction, and from the effective assistance given by fraternal countries and friends throughout the world.

As the last year of the 1980's is drawing to a close, a new situation has developed in our country, where peace has prevailed almost everywhere. This development has posed new, complicated issues concerning the consolidation of the all-people national defense and development of the people's Army.

Building the nation and firmly defending the fatherland are the two strategic tasks that the Vietnamese revolution must carry out at present. These two tasks are part of the law governing the existence and growth of our country and people. Historical realities have shown that only by defending national sovereignty and independence can we have peace to build the country and bring about a bountiful and happy life for our people.

The imperialist forces, first of all the U.S. imperialists, have not given up their dark schemes aimed at abolishing the socialist system. Reactionary and hostile forces have tried by all means to undermine the revolutionary undertaking of our people and the fraternal peoples of Laos and Cambodia. The world has undergone complicated changes. Therefore, we realize even more clearly the outstanding importance of the task of developing a strong, firm all-people national defense and building a strong, firm Army capable of serving as the mainstay of the proletarian dictatorship.

In order to develop our military strength, we must first of all make our Army strong politically. The party's leadership must be always regarded as the most important factor determining the growth and success of our revolution and our Army. Constant efforts are needed to make members of the armed forces fully aware of the party's revolutionary nature; to strengthen the party's absolute, direct, concentrated, and unified leadership.

over the Army, and to improve the leading role and militancy of party organizations within the Army. In this way, our Army can always remain firm and strong politically; adhere to the socialist path chosen by the party, Uncle Ho, and our people and armed forces; remain loyal to, have confidence in, and close its ranks around the party Central Committee; tighten its blood-sealed bond with the people; improve its combat readiness, satisfactorily engage in combat and production; and always prove itself worthy of being called Uncle Ho's Army.

The strength of the people's war, the all-people national defense, and the people's Army stems from the overall strength of our political regime, economy, culture, people, and overall proletarian dictatorship system. Therefore, the responsibility for consolidating the all-people national defense and for building an increasingly regular and modern people's Army rests with all party organizations, mass societies, state agencies, sectors, and echelons. It is necessary to rely on the people and constantly bear in mind the principle of regarding the people as the root.

Now that we attach primary importance to socialist construction, our entire party and people must always sharpen vigilance and make every effort to turn the people's Army into a comprehensively firm and strong military organization capable of serving as the mainstay of the all-people national defense and the people's war for the defense of the fatherland. The people's Army must always heighten its revolutionary vigilance, sharpen its fighting will, and improve its combat readiness so as to firmly defend the socialist fatherland and safeguard the revolutionary gains. At the same time, the people's Army is dutybound to actively engage in production and economic development, contribute to national construction, improve its military strength as well as the strength of the all-people national defense, and prove itself to be an Army that belongs to and serves the people.

Commemorating its glorious 45th founding anniversary, our entire Army takes great pride in its revolutionary tradition and shares the the joy of the all-people national defense festival being celebrated all over the country. Moved by the confidence and affection shown by our entire party and people and in anticipation of our glorious party's 60th founding anniversary—3 March 1990, the birth centenary of great Uncle Ho—19 March 1990, and the 40th National Day—2 September 1990, our Army pledges the determination to heighten vigilance, to try its best in combat, work, and production, to initiate a revolutionary movement for constant efforts for self-improvement, to build itself into a comprehensively strong and firm military organization, to overcome all difficulties and challenges, and to join hands with the entire people in firmly advancing the task of building and defending the socialist fatherland a step further in the framework of the renovation of the revolutionary cause.

Army Day Observed in USSR

8K2512083289 Hanoi VNA in English 0614 GMT
25 Dec 89

[Text] Hanoi VNA December 25—A meeting to mark the 45th founding anniversary of the Vietnam People's Army (Dec. 22) has been jointly held in Moscow by the Ministry of Defence of the Soviet Union, the Union of Societies of Friendship and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries, and other mass organizations.

Speaking at the meeting, Senior Lieutenant General N. F. Grachov wished the Vietnamese armed forces new, greater achievements in implementing the tasks put forth at the 6th party congress, particularly in consolidating their national defence capacity to help the country advance towards socialism. Earlier, a photo exhibition on the Vietnam People's Army was opened at the museum of the Soviet armed forces. In Cuba, the Ministry of Revolutionary Armed Forces and the Cuban Committee for Solidarity With Vietnam organized meetings, get-togethers, exhibitions and teaches-in in honour of the anniversary.

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